

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,
JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDI-
CIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 30, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2267) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Hyde amendment to the Commerce-Justice-State appropriation.

In Committee there was a provision added that would have allowed Members of Congress and their staffs to be reimbursed for legal costs in cases where they were the prevailing party against the Federal Government, unless a court found that the Government's case was "substantially justified or that other special circumstances would make an award unjust."

Under this provision, the burden of proof would be placed on Government prosecutors who would not only have to prove that there was probable cause a crime had been committed, but also that they were substantially justified in bringing the case to trial.

It was my intention to vote for an amendment to completely strike the committee language from the bill. Unfortunately, the Congress was not given an opportunity to vote on such an amendment.

Instead the Congress considered the Hyde amendment. This amendment took a questionable approach to a handful of cases involving Congress and sought to apply it to all cases prosecuted by the Government. This would open the Government up to a flood of litigation every time it lost a case, regardless of the circumstances.

It was a bad idea for cases involving Congress and it's an exponentially worse when it's extended to everyone else. The fact is that if this provision were to become law, the Department of Justice would choose not to pursue difficult, but legitimate, criminal cases such as those involving rape and child molestation.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL
DYSTONIA AWARENESS WEEK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate October 12-19 as National Dystonia Awareness Week.

Mr. Speaker, I became interested in the efforts of organizations that promote public

awareness and research into dystonia when one of my constituents, Larry Bienstock, brought to my attention his long-term battle with this devastating disease. After receiving his law degree from New York University, Larry was a leading figure in bringing people together who were concerned about dystonia and in establishing a strong collective voice for advocacy.

Dystonia is a rare neurological disorder characterized by severe muscle contractions and sustained postures that afflict an estimated 300,000 people in North America. The three major types of dystonia are primary, focal dystonia, and secondary dystonia.

Primary dystonia, also known as idiopathic torsion dystonia, causes spasms that affect different parts of the body and often starts in childhood.

Focal dystonia affects one specific part of the body, distinguished in five categories: blepharospasm, cervical dystonia, oromandibular dystonia, spasmodic dysphonia, and writer's cramp. Blepharospasm causes eyelids to rise tightly for seconds to hours. Cervical dystonia is the contraction on neck muscles turning the head to one side or pulling it forward or backward. Oromandibular dystonia—also known as Meige's Syndrome—is a combination of blepharospasm and oromandibular dystonia in which the muscles of the lower face pull or contract irregularly to cause facial distortions. Spasmodic dysphonia affects the speech muscles of the throat, causing strained, forced, or breathy speech. Writer's cramp is characterized by muscles in the hand and forearm contracting.

The final type of dystonia, secondary dystonia, is caused by an injury or other brain illness.

Unfortunately at this time, there is no definite test for dystonia and many primary care doctors have only minimal knowledge of the symptoms of this disease. The medical profession has found this particular neurological disorder difficult to detect, and therefore it is difficult to correctly diagnose individuals suffering from dystonia. Dystonia affects six times more Americans than other better known disorders such as Huntington's disease and muscular dystrophy.

Those who suffer from dystonia, their families, and their friends have benefited from the creation of the Affiliated National Dystonia Association [ANDA], which is comprised of the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation, the National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association, and the National Spasmodic Torticollis Association. I applaud their work, and support their outstanding efforts.

ANDA provides outreach education regarding the various types of dystonia to both the medical and lay communities, including school systems, government, and the media. It also provides for medical grants to promote research into the causes of and treatment for dystonia. Finally, ANDA sponsors patient and family support groups and programs.

Many citizens react to the physical manifestations of dystonia by avoiding those who

have this disorder, causing them to experience isolation and suffer grave psychological harm. Greater recognition and understanding of dystonia, both in the medical and the lay communities, is highly desirable. Individuals can obtain more information about dystonia on the world wide web. The Dystonia Medical Research Foundation has created a web page that not only offers information about the various forms of dystonia, but also details meeting places and dates for those who are or have a family member affected by dystonia. The web address is <http://www.ziplink.net/users/dystonia/>. You can also learn more by visiting an Internet news group dedicated to dystonia research at "alt.support.dystonia." The toll-free number is 1-800-377-DYST (3978).

Today, as we celebrate National Dystonia Awareness Week, I stand with those who have suffered with dystonia and those who have been their advocates. We must continue to increase public awareness of this disease and ultimately, to search for a cure.

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY LEROY
AND JEANETTE

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, in an era when many are concerned with the demise of the institution of marriage and the family unit in the United States, I rise today to honor Leroy and Jeanette Linck. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Leroy and Jeanette on their 50th anniversary. Leroy and Jeanette were married on September 5, 1947 at the Methodist Church in Bartonville. The Linck's joyously celebrated their 50th anniversary with close friends and family on September 6 at an intimate reception in the Spillertown Baptist Church Educational Building for all to share in this wonderful occasion.

Leroy has been an active volunteer in the political arena and through his work experience he is a jack of all trades. Leroy was a Democratic Precinct Committeeman for 32 productive years. His fervor for community involvement was intoxicating and is personally responsible for letting the people in the surrounding areas become aware of the political process. Jeanette dedicated 12 years to her career as a nurse at a local doctor's office until she decided to retire when the practice closed.

Mr. Speaker, in a day where marriages are too often short lived, it is a real treasure to be a witness to a couple that has endured the daily trials and tribulations that cause many couples to fail. The Linck's have proven that they can work things out and muddle through their struggles. This family is no stranger to life's hardships.

Leroy and Jeanette have been blessed with a large, loving family and a strong marriage.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, what a monumental achievement to be married for 50 years. It is an honor to represent a couple like the Linck's—they are an inspiration to us all in southern Illinois and I am proud to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives.

POWER VACUUM AT PANAMA CANAL

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, on October 5, 1997 The New York Times ran an interesting story by Larry Rohter on a power vacuum developing at the Panama Canal. The importance of the Canal to the United States' economic interests should not be underestimated with over 200,000 jobs in our Nation dependent on a safe and efficient Canal operation. For example, one out of every four vessels entering or leaving the Port of New York and New Jersey transits the Panama Canal.

I commend to my colleagues the Rohter story with the hope that officials at the Pentagon will not neglect our responsibilities in Panama over the next 27 months.

[From the New York Times, October 5, 1997]

AS PANAMA CANAL TRANSFER NEARS, MORE JOCKEYING TO FILL A POWER VACUUM

(By Larry Rohter)

MIAMI, Oct. 4.—The sudden resignation of the chairman of the Panama Canal Commission, with barely two years remaining before the United States yields control of the vital waterway, has created a power vacuum that Panama is now maneuvering to fill, American officials and current and former canal officials say.

Meeting in a closed session here this week, the nine-member binational body, created by the Panama Canal Treaties 20 years ago, chose the United States Secretary of the Army, Togo D. West, Jr., to succeed Joe R. Reeder, an American, who resigned on Sept. 15.

But in a nod to Panama's increasingly assertive posture regarding the running of the canal, the board also created a new position, that of vice chairman, and named a Panamanian, Jorge E. Ritter, to the job.

As Minister of State for Canal Affairs and a member of the commission's board, Mr. Ritter is already the Panamanian Government's principal negotiator on canal matters. This summer, President Ernesto Perez Balladares enhanced Mr. Ritter's already considerable influence by naming him director of the Panama Canal Authority, the entity that will assume management of the waterway when the United States hands it over to Panama on Dec. 31, 1999.

Mr. West, on the other hand, is relatively new to canal matters and remains preoccupied with the Army's sexual harassment scandals, the deployment of American troops in Bosnia and a host of other issues. This has led to concerns among some shipping executives and other canal specialists that he will be unable to devote the time required to supervise the handover properly and to assure that the Canal Treaties are properly implemented.

"It makes no sense in the heavy-duty transition that is under way to have the Secretary of the Army as chairman of the Canal Commission," said Robert R. McMillan, Mr. Reeder's predecessor as board chairman. "There is no way he can do justice to the po-

sition, no matter how many colonels from his retinue he has swarming around the Canal. With this job, it's hands on or nothing; you can't tune in just for board meetings and be an effective chairman."

In a telephone interview Friday, Mr. West, a lawyer and former general counsel of the Department of Defense, said his new post "has always been a part-time job" and that "the occasions on which the chairmanship was the sole duty of whoever held it are rare, if any." Naming a Panamanian as vice chairman "probably should have been done before now," he added, and "provides a further sign of the spirit of cooperation" between the two countries.

"We have every confidence that Secretary West will be fully capable of handling his responsibilities as Secretary of the Army as well as chairman of the Panama Canal Commission board of directors," said Capt. Michael Doubleday, a Defense Department spokesman in Washington.

Captain Doubleday noted that former Army Secretary Michael P. Stone also served as chairman of the Panama Canal commission's board, from early 1990 to January 1993.

Like Mr. Pérez Balladares' other nominees to the future Canal Authority, which include four members of his or his wife's family, Mr. Ritter has close ties to the President and the governing Democratic Revolutionary Party. During the rabidly anti-American dictatorship of Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, who was then leader of the party, Mr. Ritter was Panama's Ambassador to Colombia and then Foreign Minister.

In 1992, after the American invasion that toppled and captured him, General Noriega was convicted here of drug trafficking, racketeering and money laundering to aid Colombian drug cartels and was sentenced to 40 years in prison. During his trial, a witness testified that Mr. Ritter, using his diplomatic privileges while Ambassador in Bogotá, had purchased a Mercedes-Benz on behalf of a leading Colombian drug dealer in return for \$50,000. Mr. Ritter has denied that he did anything improper.

"Having to deal with Jorge Ritter is a sizable assignment," one American official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "That's why it is vitally important to the national interest to have someone in place who can really focus on the situation on a day-to-day basis and provide continuity all the way through 1999."

Canal officials say that Panama viewed Mr. Reeder's departure, which American officials attributed to tensions between him and Mr. West, as an opportunity to strengthen its presence on the commission. There had even been informal suggestions that the new chairman be a Panamanian, they said, which led to negotiations aimed at avoiding a show of discord at the body's next public meeting, scheduled to take place in New York this month.

Mr. West said that "if there was any such discussion in the margins, I had no sign of that." He described Mr. Ritter as "a very impressive person, intellectually very sharp, the right person to do this job," but, when asked if he himself expected to remain as chairman of the commission through 1999, he did not answer directly.

"There is every intention for all of us to be a stabilizing and not a destabilizing influence," he said. Though "neither I nor the Administration have any present plans for me not to see this through," he added, "the half life of political appointees in any administration is of such a nature that I have already exceeded my expected term."

DON PIENKOS, 1997 OUTSTANDING AMERICAN OF POLISH DESCENT

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in heartfelt tribute to my good friend, Don Pienkos, who has been honored by the National Polish Alliance's Milwaukee Society as the 1997 Outstanding American of Polish Descent.

Don has for many years played such an important role in the Polish-American community in the Milwaukee area and nationally. He's been on the board of directors for the Polish National Alliance and is very involved with its Milwaukee Society. He is also active in the Polish American Congress and Milwaukee's Polishfest festival. Dr. Pienkos has also long been a supporter of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America and the Kosciuszko Foundation.

Currently the director of undergraduate studies for the Political Science Department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Don Pienkos' special area of interest is Eastern Europe and the nations of the former Soviet Union. He has taught at UWM for nearly 30 years, working to instill in his students an appreciation for and understanding of Eastern European politics and culture. In addition, he helped organize UWM's committees on Russian and Eastern European studies, as well as Polish studies.

As a natural outgrowth of his interest, knowledge and pride in his Polish heritage, Don has authored several books on Poland and on Polish-American organizations. These informative works provide us with wonderful accounts of the efforts Polish-Americans have made on behalf of the Polish people and fellow Polish-Americans.

Most recently, Don has been active in Poland's struggle to rebuild its government and economy after the fall of eastern bloc communism. He has worked with elected community leaders from Poland to train them in local democratic government and was in Poland to observe and write about their 1995 elections. Don was also honored to have met with President Clinton and Vice-President GORE to discuss North Atlantic Treaty Organization enlargement, and has worked hard toward the goal of full NATO membership for Poland.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Professor Donald Pienkos for his outstanding work in the Polish-American community. I congratulate him on being awarded the Milwaukee Society's Outstanding American of Polish descent and extend my best wishes for a successful Pulaski Day celebration and continued success for years to come. Sto Lat!

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today we begin the 6th week of legislation business since returning from the August district work period. Each weekend I return home to western Wisconsin

and meet with the people whom I represent. Each weekend I have to inform them that we have not taken any action on campaign finance reform. Mr. Speaker, the people of my district are tired of hearing that another week has gone without campaign finance reform.

Over the past 6 weeks in Congress we have found the time to tackle some very difficult matters. Yet that action has done nothing to restore the public's faith in this institution. The reason for this lack of faith is our failure to clean our own house. The public is demanding that we eliminate the influence of big money in the political system before they will trust us to serve the interests of the people. Failure to even consider a bill on campaign finance reform is only feeding that cynicism.

Instead of banning soft money Congress gave huge tax breaks to tobacco companies. Instead of requiring special interests to disclose what they spend on campaign advertising Congress continues to allow those special interest groups to run unregulated political ads more than a year before an election. Instead of instituting more stringent campaign reporting requirements Congress conducts repetitive, partisan inquiries into past campaign abuses.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to restore the public's faith in our democratic system. It is time to show the voters that we have the ability to clean our own house. It is time we pass meaningful campaign finance reform.

FAMILY PLANNING FUNDING

HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, the Foreign Operations conference report soon will be considered by the House. As we consider that legislation, I want to call my colleague's attention to this editorial on family planning funding which appeared recently in the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

EDITORIAL: FAMILY PLANNING—SAVING THE WORLD'S CHILDREN, AND MOTHERS

Before they settle into office, perhaps new members of Congress should be required to visit a developing country. They'd see what it's like to scratch a livelihood out of the dirt, to strain to feed more mouths than the available food can fill. They'd see how overpopulation spawns a cycle of poverty, disease, illiteracy and environmental devastation. And these world travelers would likely return to the Capitol knowing something that many of today's lawmakers can't seem to grasp: If Americans want to save lives and improve health overseas, funding family planning is the surest bet.

There's really no disputing this; no credible group even tries. The World Bank—hardly a bastion of bleeding hearts—says investing in contraception is a remarkably cost-effective way to improve child and maternal health. Yet U.S. lawmakers have been mysteriously reluctant to take note of this wisdom. In recent years they've devoted only a pittance of foreign-aid funds to family planning, and then have bent over backwards to keep from spending it.

This year's backbend comes courtesy of the House of Representatives, which has passed a "global gag rule" and other debilitating amendments to its version of the foreign operations appropriations bill. The bill

is being considered along with its cleaner Senate companion in a conference committee that convened Thursday.

The House's gag rule is a variation on an old theme, born of the hope that holding family planning programs hostage can somehow stop abortion. Though federal law has barred the use of U.S. funds for foreign abortions for two decades, the House plan goes one grand step further. It would bar family-planning groups overseas from receiving U.S. funds if—using their own, non-U.S. money—the groups provide abortions, openly support abortion or even speak to their governments about making abortion safer. The House bill would also cut off \$25 million to the U.N.'s Population Fund unless the agency pulls out of China, where forced abortions have been reported.

Whatever its intent, it's hard to imagine that this scheme will actually do much to curb abortion. Its chief effect will likely be to weaken the network of family-planning agencies on which millions of the globe's most destitute contraceptive-seekers depend. And since contraception is the best anti-abortion program around, making it hard to get is sure to spur fresh demand for abortion. Even now, unwanted pregnancies result in about 50 million abortions every year—many performed in dangerous, often deadly, conditions. What sensible soul would want to add to that number?

TRIBUTE TO DONALD J. BABB

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Donald J. Babb as this year's recipient of the American Hospital Association's Shirley Ann Monroe Leadership Development Award. Mr. Babb serves as chief executive officer of Citizens Memorial Hospital [CMH] and executive director of Citizens Memorial Health Care Foundation in Bolivar, MO. The Monroe Award is given annually to a chief executive officer of a small or rural hospital.

Don has been with CMH since it first opened its doors in the fall of 1982. In fact, Don was hired before construction even began, and was the hospital's first employee. He was hand-picked by the hospital's original board of directors to come to Bolivar to help build CMH from the ground up. And, build it from the ground up he did.

Because of Don's hard work and vision, CMH has grown from a 45,000 square foot facility with 90 employees to a 300,000 square foot facility with over 1,000 employees. But the hospital's phenomenal growth cannot be measured merely in terms of physical size. Under Don's leadership CMH has evolved into a fully-integrated health care delivery system to meet the growing needs of its service area, which has grown from 17,000 to nearly 80,000 people in only 15 years. Today, CMH includes a 74 bed acute care hospital, an intensive care unit, a full-service outpatient clinic, rehabilitation services, a home health agency, 12 physician clinics, an ambulance service, and a residential care facility. The hospital will also add a dialysis clinic this fall.

The health care industry has faced many changes in the past two decades, and Don has confronted those changes head-on. Because of the rising costs of health care Don

formed Missouri Advantage, the first Health Maintenance Organization [HMO] for a small, rural hospital in Missouri, and one of only six in the Nation at that time. In 1996, Don expanded Missouri Advantage to cover three additional rural hospitals in the State.

Don has consistently used his position to look for new and better ways to identify and address the health care needs in his community. In 1995, he formed Community Health Assessment Resource Teams [CHART] in five counties within the CMH service area. Don has used CHART to bring together professionals, lay people, and volunteers to address issues like teen pregnancy, infant mortality, and the acute shortage of health care professionals in rural communities.

In spite of Don's personal success, he has never lost touch with the community he serves or the people he works with. It is not uncommon for Don to take time out to visit personally with the employees of CMH and let them know that he appreciates their efforts. His is a great example. I would like to thank Don once again for having the courage to lead, and to congratulate him on receiving this well deserved honor.

86TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON TAIWAN

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate President Lee Teng-hui and Vice President Lien Chan of the Republic of China on Taiwan as they celebrate the 86th anniversary of the founding of their nation. Their commitment to the sometimes-difficult task of forging a democratic nation is to be lauded.

Also, I would like to extend my best to Representative Jason Hu, who is returning to Taiwan to assume the duties of Foreign Minister. If his tenure here in the United States is any indication of the future, Dr. Hu will be a first-rate foreign minister for the Taiwanese Government. His efforts to forge ties between our countries are commendable and will surely serve him well.

Finally, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering encouragement to the Taiwanese Government in its continued efforts to build a democratic nation.

READING EXCELLENCE ACT

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, for many years I have led the battle to combat illiteracy in the United States, through the development of the Even Start Family Literacy Program and through the improvement of the Adult Education Act.

What has been missing has been a focus of preventing reading difficulties from developing in the first place. We have several major Federal education programs focused on assisting children who are experiencing difficulties learning to read, such as title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Act and the Individuals

With Disabilities Education Act. And yet, the 1994 NAEP Reading Report Card points out that 40 percent of children in fourth grade are reading below the basic level. This means they have only partially mastered the prerequisite knowledge and skills which are fundamental for proficient work at their grade level.

President Clinton, and I commend him for his interest in improving reading skills in our Nation's children, has proposed that we address this problem primarily through the use of volunteers to help students experiencing reading difficulties. However, hearings before my Committee on Education and the Workforce have pointed out that an even more fundamental change is necessary if we are to teach children to read. The fact is, we first have to teach teachers how to teach reading based on reliable, replicable research on how children learn to read.

Dr. Reid Lyon, Chief of the Child Development and Behavior Branch at the National Institutes of Health, testified before the committee that fewer than 10 percent of our Nation's teachers have an adequate understanding of how reading develops or how to provide reading instruction to struggling readers.

Rather than focusing on volunteers, we need to focus our attention on those individuals who have the primary responsibility for teaching our children to read.

Today I am introducing a bill which I believe will go a long way toward addressing the illiteracy problems in our country. This legislation, the Reading Excellence Act, provides grants to States to provide funding to title 1 schools in school improvement to teach teachers how to teach reading and to provide for a range of other activities to help prevent the development of reading difficulties among children in elementary school.

Among other activities, the bill requires schools to provide transition programs for children who are not ready to move from kindergarten to first grade, family literacy activities for parents who have low levels of literacy to help them become their child's first and most important teacher, and additional assistance before and after school, on weekends, during non-instructional periods during the school day and during the summer to children experiencing reading difficulties.

The bill also requires States to fund tutorial assistance grants. These grants would go to title 1 schools in enterprise and empowerment zones and would be used to provide grants to parents to seek additional reading assistance for their children from a list of providers developed by the local educational agency.

The Reading Excellence Act also calls for the board dissemination of information on reliable, replicable research on reading to Federal education programs with a strong reading component so all teachers have the knowledge they need to teach children how to read.

Finally, this bill makes important changes to the Even Start Family Literacy Act and the College Work Study Act to allow them to work with children and families to improve the reading ability of our Nation's children.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good bill which will go a long way toward insuring that the children in our Nation will learn to read as soon as possible once they enter school. It is my sincere hope that this bill can receive bipartisan support and I have been working closely with the Clinton administration and Democrats who

serve on my committee to achieve that goal. While we are not there yet, it is my desire to continue to work with them to develop a bill that both Republicans and Democrats can support and that will truly help all children to read no later than the third grade.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to announce an important initiative for rural America. Recently, rural areas have been faced with rising health care costs, and providing medical services has become a financial burden on local government. As a result, rescue and EMS squads have had to forgo needed improvements, construction, and equipment. When a loved one requires emergency services, ambulances must roll, equipment must work, and facilities must be in place. These organizations often make the difference between life and death in an emergency. We cannot risk one life because of a lack of sufficient funds for these organizations.

Today, I am introducing legislation that will seek to correct this problem. The Emergency Medical Services Enhancement [EMS] Act will allow emergency organizations to issue tax-exempt bonds to raise funds for the purchase of equipment and for the construction and improvement of facilities. Tax-exempt bonds are used to build schools, bridges, and other public facilities. Volunteer fire departments have issued these bonds to purchase equipment and facilities. It is only right that we give similar consideration to those volunteer organizations that provide life saving emergency services to our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will have an immediate impact on volunteer emergency organizations in rural areas across this country. In Harnett County, NC, my home county, the town of Dunn is building a new EMS facility as a result of damage to the previous station from Hurricane Fran last year. The Dunn EMS would have saved half a million dollars if it could have issued tax-exempt bonds. In Franklin County, the Franklinton EMS has been colocated with the fire department since its headquarters were destroyed by Fran last year. This bill will help them rebuild and provide the quality services the people of Franklin County deserve. This bill will save lives in rural counties throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, this bill builds on the work of my friend and a former Member of this body, Martin Lancaster. He laid the foundation for this effort by introducing this bill when he was in the House a few years ago. I am pleased to have the opportunity to introduce this bill that will fulfill a critical need in our rural communities.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILD SUPPORT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. GREG GANSKE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Child Support Enhancement Act of 1997 which will help ensure that deadbeat parents take personal responsibility for their children.

It takes two people to bring a child into the world and it takes two people to raise a child in this world. Unfortunately, in too many cases, one parent believes that their responsibility ends when the baby is born.

Statistics estimate that by 1994, there were approximately 11.4 million families with minor children in this country that were single-parent households. While single-parent families made up roughly 13 percent of American families in 1970, this number escalated to 31 percent of all families in 1994.

This harsh reality means that the success of our Nation's child support enforcement efforts is important to an even greater number of children growing up in this country in single-parent homes.

As I have mentioned before, while we can't legislate and force parents to read to their children, attend Little League baseball games or show up at birthday parties, we can help make sure there is food in children's mouths and clothes on their backs by encouraging financial responsibility. This financial responsibility must include both parents. Child support is not merely a legal duty; it is a moral duty.

This is why I strongly supported the initiatives contained in the welfare bill that passed into law during the 104th Congress. The new law improves child support collection procedures, enhances enforcement of child support orders across State lines, and helps insure that deadbeat parents take personal responsibility for their children.

As Members of Congress we must oversee the implementation of the new law to ensure it is achieving its intended purpose. In the meantime, we must continue efforts to strengthen our child support enforcement efforts.

The importance of these initiatives can clearly be seen when one considers that in fiscal year 1995, the child support enforcement program collected child support payments for less than 20 percent of its caseload.

That is why I am introducing the Child Support Enforcement Act of 1997. This bill authorizes the seizure or interception of judgments or settlements to private individuals in suits brought against the Federal Government. The legislation applies to settlements or judgments in both administrative actions and claims in a court of law.

Currently, State child support enforcement officials and others working on behalf of custodial parents can seize or intercept moneys in suits against private individuals and State governments, but only in very narrow circumstances can they do this when Uncle Sam is involved.

If a deadbeat parent is going to receive money from the Federal Government, this legislation will help to ensure that the children get their share.

We must continue efforts that make it easier for child support collectors to do their job.

For kids' sake, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL GARSON

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend and congratulate Michael Garson for his outstanding community service in my district. Mr. Garson was recently honored by the Harry S. Truman Democratic Club, also in my district. Community action and service are critical to the betterment of our cities, and Mike certainly is an outstanding example of how people involved in such service can have positive impact on those around them.

In addition to serving as a Democratic State committeeman and as a Democratic leader of the 41st assembly district, Mike is a member of the New York State and Brooklyn Bar Associations, the International Legal Fraternity Phi Delta Phi, B'nai B'rith Sheepshead Lodge, Congregation Beth Shalom of Sheepshead Bay, and the Jewish War Veterans No. 335, Cohen-Eisenman Post. He also services with distinction on the board of directors of the Kings Bay YMHA-YWHA. He was honored in 1982 by the Kings County Young Democrats and is listed in Who's Who in the East. Mike lives in the Madison section of Brooklyn with his wife, Laurie, and his daughter, Francesca.

I thank Mike for his continued community service and wish him success in his life. I sincerely hope that we will continue to work together for many years to come.

HONORING SHERMAN SPEARS

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievement of one of my constituents, Mr. Sherman Spears. He will be honored on October 14, 1997 as a recipient of the Amendment Award of Excellence in Crime Prevention on behalf of the National Crime Prevention Council. Out of 140 nominations, Mr. Spears was selected along with eight extraordinary individuals who are fighting crime and building community.

Mr. Spears was shot at the age of 19 and fortunate to have survived. The incident, which left him a paraplegic, motivated him to dedicate his life to doing what he can to help at-risk young people make choices to keep themselves and others alive, and to teach them how to build safer communities. Since 1993, he has been the Coordinator of Teens on Target, a youth violence prevention program in my hometown of Oakland, CA. He began the Caught in the Crossfire hospital peer visitation program in 1994.

Mr. Spears used his experience and understanding to develop the Caught in the Crossfire program. This program provides adolescents, who are recovering from violent injuries

in the Highland hospital trauma center, with educational materials about violent crime to dissuade victims and their friends from retaliating against their attackers. Upon discharge, Mr. Spears contacts the patients to see if they have used the referrals given to them, such as joining a program to help them get their GED, changing friendship groups, or joining and attending a physical rehabilitation program.

Caught in the Crossfire provides visitation to all recovering adolescents who are referred by the Highlight hospital staff. This averages 50 visits per year. The average length of hospital stay of each patient is 2 to 3 days; Mr. Spears responds to the call for help within 24 hours.

Teens on Target approaches at-risk youth in an attempt to reform their perspectives and to help them understand the repercussions of violence. The program trains multiethnic urban youth to educate their peers about the causes of violence and how to prevent it at home, in their neighborhood, and in their city. Each year, 25 youth from two high schools in Oakland are trained by Mr. Spears to: First, provide peer violence prevention education at schools, conferences and community events; second, educate professionals on the impact of violence on youth and strategies for prevention that will work; third, provide an informed voice to the media about how youth can be leaders in preventing violence; fourth, provide positive role models for youth; and fifth, provoke policymakers to take action to prevent violence. The youth, at risk for dropping out of school themselves, are referred to Teens on Target by probation officers, principals, counselors, and teachers. They provide four interactive violence prevention workshops to approximately 2,000 youth per year addressing the issues of gun violence, street and gang violence, alcohol and drug violence, and family violence. Over 5,000 youth have received this training since Mr. Spears has coordinated the project.

I would like to thank the National Crime Prevention Council and Ameritech for their commitment in helping individuals fight crime and build community and for recognizing and honoring the work of Mr. Spears and others.

Sherman Spears did not let his experience with violence become an excuse for defeat. He has not allowed the physical difficulties resulting from that incident to keep him from making a contribution to his community. Instead, he has used his unique insight to create programs to address crime throughout Oakland. We, in Oakland, are fortunate and proud to have Mr. Spears working on the front lines, to help break the vicious cycle of violence. Thank you so much for your commitment and work on our behalf. I also ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sherman Spears and hard-working individuals like him who make a difference in their communities.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to announce an important initiative for rural America. Recently, rural areas

have been faced with rising health care costs, and providing medical services has become a financial burden on local government. As a result, rescue and EMS squads have had to forgo needed improvements, construction, and equipment. When a loved one requires emergency services, ambulances must roll, equipment must work and facilities must be in place. These organizations often make the difference between life and death in an emergency. We cannot risk one life because of a lack of sufficient funds for these organizations.

Today, I am introducing legislation that will seek to correct this problem. The Emergency Medical Services Enhancement [EMS] Act will allow emergency organizations to issue tax-exempt bonds to raise funds for the purchase of equipment and for the construction and improvement of facilities. Tax-exempt bonds are used to build schools, bridges, and other public facilities. Volunteer fire departments have issued these bonds to purchase equipment and facilities. It is only right that we give similar consideration to those volunteer organizations that provide life saving emergency services to our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will have an immediate impact on volunteer emergency organizations in rural areas across this country. In Harnett County, NC, my home county, the town of Dunn is building a new EMS facility as a result of damage to the previous station from Hurricane Fran last year. The Dunn EMS would have saved half a million dollars if it could have issued tax-exempt bonds. In Franklin County, the Franklinton EMS has been co-located with the fire department since its headquarters were destroyed by Fran last year. This bill will help them rebuild and provide the quality services the people of Franklin County deserve. This bill will save lives in rural counties throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, this bill builds on the work of my friend and a former Member of this body, Martin Lancaster. He laid the foundation for this effort by introducing this bill when he was in the House a few years ago. I am pleased to have the opportunity to introduce this bill that will fulfill a critical need in our rural communities.

SOMERSET AMVETS LOUIS A. COLON POST #72 FIFTIETH ANNI- VERSARY

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to congratulate the Somerset AMVETS Louis A. Colon Post #72 on their 50 anniversary. The Somerset AMVETS have been a source of community pride and public service since their inception in 1947.

For the past 50 years the Somerset AMVETS have worked tirelessly to promote the values of those who have served in the U.S. military. They have sponsored numerous youth athletic teams, partnered with Somerset South school in providing athletic and academic mentoring, provided scholarships to area youths attending college, worked with the VA voluntary services and for 50 consecutive years sponsored Boy Scout troop #2. This is just a sampling of the charitable and community service work the Somerset AMVETS have provided in the past 50 years.

Once again I would like to congratulate and commend the Somerset AMVETS Louis A. Colon Post #72 on their 50th anniversary. I with them continued success in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MARILYN LLOYD

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of one of our former colleagues, Marilyn Lloyd, who served in the House from 1975 to 1995. On October 10, Ms. Lloyd's 20 years of service to her district will be commemorated at the dedication of the Marilyn Lloyd Environmental and Life Sciences Complex in Oak Ridge, TN.

The Marilyn Lloyd Environmental and Life Sciences Complex will comprise most of the Environmental Sciences Division's labs and offices on the west end of Oak Ridge National Laboratory [ORNL]. Ms. Lloyd's successor, Congressman ZACH WAMP, along with various officials and dignitaries, will be on hand to express their appreciation for her efforts on behalf of ORNL.

There could not be a more fitting tribute to her hard work and dedication to the Oak Ridge community. As a senior member of the House Science Committee and chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Energy, former Representative Lloyd was in a unique position to assume a watchdog position and ensure that Oak Ridge was treated fairly. At a time when many DOE sites are struggling, Oak Ridge has maintained its status as a national leader in neutron science, cutting-edge technology, and environmental cleanup. None of this would have been possible without Marilyn Lloyd's diligence and commitment to the third District of Tennessee.

In her previous position as a U.S. Congresswoman, Ms. Lloyd brought attention to the need for fusion energy research and the Isotope Production and Distribution Program. Her dedication to her district and the science community was so deep-rooted, she chose to remain the chairwoman of the Energy Subcommittee even after she had obtained the seniority to chair a subcommittee on the House Armed Services Committee.

Ms. Lloyd still remains active in the science community and in Oak Ridge. She is an appointee to the Secretary of Energy's advisory board and a member of Lockheed Martin Energy Research Corp. board of directors. Her community service, church activities, and family keep her busy as well.

As the first and only woman to be elected to a full term in the U.S. House of Representatives from Tennessee, Marilyn always was a trailblazer. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this tribute than my former colleague and friend, Marilyn Lloyd. Her past and continued work for the Oak Ridge National Lab and the Third District should never be forgotten.

CELEBRATION OF AUSTRIAN-AMERICAN DAY

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Austrian-American Day. President Clinton and Governors across the Nation proclaimed September 26, 1997, as Austrian-American Day. Three of my constituents, Christian Robin, Maria Groh, and Anna Goodman, came to Washington, DC, to celebrate this important occasion.

Why is September 26 important to Austrian-Americans? On September 26, 1945, at the meeting of all Federal Provincial Governors, the United States insisted that Austria remain a united nation. Had it not been for the United States, Austria would have been divided between the East and West.

This year also marks an important anniversary for Austrian-Americans. Fifty years ago, the United States initiated the Marshall plan. Through this plan, many war-torn European nations were able to rebuild after World War II. The Marshall plan enabled these nations to fend off the looming Communist threat.

Austrian-Americans work hard to make their communities a better place to live in by sharing what they have and helping others in need. In a sense, we can say that our aid in postwar reconstruction has come full circle. We are now receiving the benefits of the generosity that our Nation showed to another country in their time of need.

Mr. Speaker, many great Austrian-Americans have contributed to our way of life. I want to take a moment and reflect on some famous Austrian-Americans: Joseph Pulitzer, Supreme Court Justices Felix Frankfurter and Earl Warren, Estee Lauder, Fred Astair, and Arnold Schwarzenegger. These individuals have made many contributions to our society. Of course, there are countless other Austrian-Americans who have contributed greatly in the areas of literature, science, economics, medicine, and entertainment.

Austria and America have an inextricable bond which has been created not only through the Marshall plan but also through those Austrians who have chosen to make the United States their home. Though they may have been born and raised in another country, they have joined the melting pot that is our country, making our Nation even stronger by the addition of their experiences and hopes and dreams for America. We must take the time to learn and appreciate other heritages and cultures. I would like to commend Austrian-Americans for making their culture accessible to all of us through their many different activities throughout the United States.

CONGRATULATIONS TO J. EDWIN KYLE

HON. W. J. (BILLY) TAUZIN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, J. Edwin Kyle is celebrating his 80th birthday on October 12, 1997. I would like to wish him a very happy

birthday and congratulate him on reaching this milestone. I wish him many more joy-filled birthdays.

FAST TRACK IS THE WRONG TRACK

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that I have been a consistent and vocal critic of NAFTA. When Congress voted to expand the treaty to Mexico in 1994, I opposed it, and subsequent events have demonstrated all too clearly why NAFTA was a bad deal for the American working man and woman. The United States has lost more than 400,000 jobs, while the situation of Mexican workers has continued to deteriorate.

Perhaps NAFTA could have been salvaged when Congress received it for deliberation 4 years ago. Unfortunately, we had no choice but to vote for it as it was presented to us, with no opportunity to add amendments or insert clarifications of any kind, because in 1992, Congress handed President Bush fast track negotiating authority.

Now President Clinton would like to expand NAFTA to other nations in the Western Hemisphere, such as Chile. And, of course, he again wants fast track authority in dealing with our neighbors.

The problem with fast track is not so much that the President is using it to negotiate bad trade deals, although he did, and I believe he will again. The overriding concern is that fast track is yet another voluntary abrogation of congressional authority to the President.

It should be of great concern to my colleagues and all Americans that the people's legislature—Congress—could again surrender much of its constitutional prerogatives in shaping trade policy. There is no denying that we exist in a global economy, where we should always strive for free and fair trade. However, at a time when world commerce is becoming increasingly complex and the future well-being of American workers is pegged to the way we do business with other countries, Congress is voluntarily handing over its responsibility when it comes to shaping the rules by which we have to play.

Over the last 30 years, Congress has given up many of its traditional powers to the President, such as sending American troops into war zones. It is time for Congress to put a stop to this trend, and the upcoming fast track vote is the perfect place to turn the tide.

Even the ardent free traders at the Wall Street Journal recently published a poll that showed an overwhelming majority of Americans believe that Congress should play a role in the crafting of our Nation's trade agreements.

It is time for Congress to put a halt to both self-destructive trade agreements and the meek surrender of its prerogatives and responsibilities.

HONORING SANDOR BRATTSTROM

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of a valued employee, Mr. Sandor Brattstrom, who has served as congressional liaison to communities in the 11th District of Illinois since I took office in 1995. Sandy has been a faithful friend of the people of the 11th District of Illinois. His service on their behalf, particularly the people of Will County, has positively affected these communities in innumerable ways.

As congressional liaison to Will County, he has helped me build strong relationships with local officials and business leaders. His instinctive understanding of the needs of these communities and his ability to perceive fruitful courses of action has served to make me more effective as a community servant.

A very important part of Sandy's work has been his critical role in the redevelopment of the 23,500 acre Joliet Arsenal property, a project which has attracted national attention as a prototype for the conversion of unneeded military facilities to productive civilian use.

Not only did Sandy play a key role in mobilizing the diverse 11th District sources of support needed to ensure passage of the enabling redevelopment legislation, the Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1996, but he has since worked very hard to help begin the process of implementing the following major provisions of this landmark act of Congress:

The creation of the 19,000-acre Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie—the largest tallgrass prairie in the Nation. The prairie will be a wonderful natural treasure cherished by Americans for many generations to come.

The development of a 3,000-acre industrial park utilizing much of the arsenal's infrastructure to eventually provide economic growth and thousands of new jobs.

The building of a 985-acre national veterans' cemetery—larger even than the Arlington National Cemetery and the second largest in the Nation—to honor the men and women whose courage and sacrifice to America have preserved our freedoms.

Sandor Brattstrom has been a very important contributor to the success of my service in the U.S. Congress on behalf of the citizens of the 11th District. I am pleased to know that in his new position as assistant executive director of the Joliet Arsenal Development Authority, he will continue to serve many of the people of Will County and the 11th District.

I thank you, Sandy, for all you have accomplished for me and the people I represent.

TRIBUTE TO ADELE MCKENZIE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, on Veterans Day of this year, a great American and wonderful lady, Adele McKenzie, will be honored at the courthouse in Maryville, TN.

This will be a very well-deserved tribute to a very patriotic woman.

Adele McKenzie is a native of Blount County and the daughter of the late India and Thomas Brady.

She is the great, great, great, great, great granddaughter of the first county judge who served when Blount was still a territorial county.

Mrs. McKenzie is the widow of Lt. Comdr. Boyd McKenzie, a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Navy. The wife of a career military man is in many, many ways a veteran herself.

She is the mother of Boyd McKenzie, Jr., who is with Delta Airlines in Atlanta, and Melinda Bryan, a sergeant with the Chattanooga police department.

Mrs. McKenzie has long been active in community affairs, especially the VFW Auxiliary, for which she served two terms as district 2 president.

She was president of the Sam Houston School PTA and worked for 32 years as a Scout leader. She has been a longtime member of the Blount County Jury Commission, a member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, the Fort Loudon Association, and the Sam Houston Memorial Association.

Mrs. McKenzie has been best known in recent years as a valuable and devoted member of the staff of The Daily Times newspaper.

Adele McKenzie has been and remains today as one of the most active and respected citizens of Blount County.

She is loved and admired by thousands. She has not lived her life on the sidelines, but instead has done her best to help others.

This Nation would be a much better place if we had more people like Adele McKenzie.

I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD the following article about the life of Adele McKenzie which was published in The Daily Times.

(By Tammy Stanford)

Adele McKenzie—veteran government news reporter and historian—was honored by the Blount County Commission Monday.

A resolution approved unanimously by the group, said McKenzie of The Daily Times has given years of "exceptional and selfless public service."

For more than two decades, McKenzie covered the Blount County Court and Commission for the Times, including its important budget committee meetings.

"You were an honorary member of the budget committee," James Kyker, a commissioner for many years and current commission chairman, told McKenzie during the presentation.

Said Dean Stone, McKenzie's long-time co-worker and executive-editor of the times: "(Adele's) favorite assignments were the Blount County Quarterly Court and the Blount County Commission."

County Executive Bill Crisp said officials wanted to acknowledge McKenzie's dedication with a resolution.

"We wanted to make sure you understood how much we appreciate and love you." Crisp told the honoree.

McKenzie now writes features and a weekly cooking column for the newspaper.

Stone noted McKenzie's renown as a local historian. Her family has been prominent in the area since Blount was a territorial county.

McKenzie's son, Boyd M. McKenzie Jr., was at the presentation and also lauded his mother's contributions to the county.

She has been a leader in many community clubs, including the Sam Houston Memorial Association and Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

McKenzie is the daughter of the late India Patton Brady and Thomas F. Brady. She is the widow of Lt. Comdr. Boyd M. McKenzie.

The couple's daughter, Melinda Bryan, is a Chattanooga police officer. Their son works for Delta Airlines in Atlanta.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on Monday, October 6, 1997, and thus was unable to vote in favor of the Veterans Health Programs Improvement Act. I know that this bill passed by a very wide margin and that my vote made no difference in the outcome, however as one who has consistently supported our veterans and who has joined with many Members to seek additional research into gulf war syndrome, I had hoped to be on the House floor to cast an affirmative vote.

GLENN T. SEABORG—ELEMENTAL PIONEER

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege today to pay tribute to one of America's—and the world's greatest scientists. Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg is currently the university professor of chemistry at the University of California, associate director-at-large at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and chairman of the Lawrence Hall of Science. He has previously served as both chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley and as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Dr. Seaborg is perhaps best known as the cointerwinner of the 1951 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work on the chemistry of the transuranic elements. He is the codiscoverer of 10 transuranic elements, and is the only person to hold a patent on a chemical element—both americium and curium.

Today I want to applaud Dr. Seaborg for yet another honor. The international panel that approves the names of new elements has approved the naming of Element 106 as Seaborgium. This is the first time that an element has been named for a living person, and is a great tribute to the work that Dr. Seaborg has accomplished over the last six decades. He is one of a very few Americans for whom the term "living legend" truly applies, and it is my honor today to congratulate Dr. Seaborg on this magnificent achievement.

THE AMERICAN LAND
SOVEREIGNTY PROTECTION ACT

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of H.R. 901, the American Land Sovereignty Protection Act, I am confident that the bill makes a firm commitment to protecting America's public lands against overreaching international bureaucracies, like the United Nations. I particularly commend Chairman DON YOUNG for his leadership on this bill.

My district in California includes three national parks—Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia. Therefore, any question of threatened sovereignty over public lands and its potential impact on adjoining private property is of critical concern to me and my constituents. The United Nations should not be operating in our backyard in the absence of congressional oversight. H.R. 901 reasserts Congress' constitutional role in the making of rules and regulations governing lands belonging to the United States and its people.

It is arrogant for the United Nations to believe that undermining the United States' hard won sovereignty is in the best interest of world peace. Preserving every measure of U.S. sovereignty is crucial to maintaining American leadership abroad and at home. I urge the House to pass H.R. 901.

HONORING CLARA PADILLA
ANDREWS

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize an outstanding individual, a constituent, and friend of mine in the First Congressional District of Oregon, Ms. Clara Padilla Andrews. Ms. Andrews has dedicated her life to serving others.

Ms. Andrews is the owner and publisher of the El Hispanic News, a bilingual English/Spanish weekly community newspaper in Oregon. Previously, Ms. Andrews has served as a Community and Family Services integration of services supervisor and the Hispanic services coordinator for Multnomah County in Portland. Through her tenure with the county, she demonstrated her strong will, dedication, and commitment to sharing her talents and knowledge to promote networking and partnerships. Her ability as a community organizer and strong encouragement of project collaboration were essential ingredients in the work she did and continues to do in creating a better society for all.

Ms. Andrews is known for her behind-the-scenes advocacy on behalf of disenfranchised Hispanic families in Multnomah County. She was instrumental in obtaining monetary support to staff positions at three high schools to reduce the Hispanic student dropout rate.

She was also essential in the renovation of the Galaxy apartment complex. This cluster of

apartments in their original condition were a northeast Portland neighborhood eyesore in deplorable condition with a prevalence of drugs and prostitution, crime, and poverty.

Today the Galaxy apartments are the Villa de Clara Vista apartments named in honor the Hacienda Community Development Corp. and recruited board members to spearhead the renovation effort to make affordable family housing available. The project today also includes a one-stop center for coordinated social services for area occupants. This project now serves as a national model.

Ms. Andrews has worked at all levels of government. Her civic involvement is admirable, as she served as the secretary of state for New Mexico from 1983 to 1986 and was the highest ranking Latina elected official at that time. When Ms. Andrews lost her granddaughter, Susana Gurule, to cancer, she founded the Susana Maria Gurule Foundation which focuses its efforts on increasing the number of minority volunteers for the National Marrow Donor Program registry. As a result of her work, she has also been named to the National Marrow Donor Program board.

Ms. Andrews is a 1986 recipient of a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Distinguished Service Award, the 1994 Doernbecker Hospital Hero's Award, Executive Women in State Government Distinguished Award, and several others. She has also been named 1 of the 100 Most Influential Hispanics four times.

Ms. Andrews is an exemplary citizen. Her lifetime of achievements and contributions to making society a better place for all serves as a model for all of us to learn from and follow. In recognition of National Hispanic Heritage month, it is my honor to recognize my friend, Ms. Clara Padilla Andrews.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JUDITH MAY
COOK

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary citizen and beloved public servant, Judith May Cook. Her endless contributions to the small community of Little Compton deserve proper recognition as she prepared to retire from her position as town clerk.

Judith was born to Clarence F. and Lucille Hambly on November 25, 1947. At 29 years old she began her distinguished career as a public servant. On April 1, 1976, Judith was first appointed to fill the unexpired term of retiree, Olive R. Kneeland, as treasurer of Little Compton. She committed her invaluable efforts to this office for 6 years and her hard work and dedication were not soon forgotten. After the tragic death of Philip B. Wilbur, the town clerk, Judith was appointed to fill his unexpired term. Since her appointment on December 4, 1986, she has run unopposed in every election for this position. Besides fulfilling the duties of her appointments, Judith was elected to participate on the town's budget committee for a term and a half. Ms. Cook has played a vital role in the government's stability

and financial security of the small community of Little Compton.

Little Compton is a sparsely settled, seaside community populated by only 3,367 permanent residents. While the town entertains an influx of summer residents, the economy does not rely on tourism, but agriculture is its largest significant component. Little Compton has remained free of many of the political and economic pressures of the 20th century. In a town that celebrates its natural evolution as much as its picturesque landscape, a defining citizen like Judith May Cook proves to be a true role model.

When Judith May Cook retires on January 1, 1998, it will be a great loss for the community of Little Compton. Her professional success and dedicated service will always stand as a model of commitment for which we may strive to emulate. I ask my colleagues to join me to salute and thank Judith for her years of outstanding public service.

PERMANENT LEGAL RESIDENCY
FOR JESSICA KOCH

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced a bill crucial to Jessica Koch, a high school senior in my district. This bill will provide for the permanent legal residency of this well-rounded, ambitious girl whose world has been irrevocably changed after recently discovering her status as an illegal immigrant.

Jessica came to this country with a tourist visa in 1981. Shortly thereafter, when she was 18 months old, she was abandoned by her biological mother, the only parent she had ever known. Fortunately, she was taken into the caring home of David and Diane Miller, who were awarded legal custody of her when she was 5. Oblivious of her status as an illegal immigrant, the Millers raised her, supported her, and cared for her as one of their own. It was not until this year that Jessica's life and hopes for a successful future were turned upside-down.

On August 13, Jessica went to replace a lost Social Security card that the Millers obtained for her when they were given custody. She was stunned when she was denied a card and was told she was an illegal immigrant. Until that moment Jessica took pride in acting as a responsible citizen by working part-time while in school and registering to vote. Now, upon learning of her illegal status, she was forced to stop working to help support herself.

Because Jessica came to this country as an infant and became a member of the Miller family at a young age, she was raised with the impression that she was an adopted member of the Miller family and that she was a U.S. citizen. This is a case to which Congress can bring a happy resolution. By introducing this bill, I am hopeful that Jessica can remain in the United States, the only country she calls home.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN
PACKARD'S NAVAL INTEL-
LIGENCE TREATISE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, Capt. Wyman H. Packard, U.S. Navy (Retired), a constituent of mine from Arlington, has spent the past three decades diligently compiling the first public history of U.S. Naval Intelligence. Today, the result of his effort is a joint publication of the Office of Naval Intelligence and the Naval Historical Center titled "A Century of Naval Intelligence."

Captain Packard's undertaking was done without remuneration from the U.S. Government. Rather, he chose to demonstrate that history repeats itself and we have a tendency of going in a circle under the guise of progress. This book will serve as a textbook for the Naval Intelligence School and will provide a starting point for future historical studies. This administrative history studies how the discipline and bureaucracy of naval intelligence evolved.

Most of Captain Packard's research comes from firsthand experiences. He participated in five major sea engagements during World War II, including Midway, the Coral Sea, and the Solomons. He also served aboard the USS *Hornet* from the time it was launched and through its brief but heroic history until it was sunk in the Pacific.

This book clearly demonstrates the importance of naval intelligence to the U.S. national security during peace and war and is a valuable reference for defense professionals.

100-MILE DIABETES WALK

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly remarkable group of individuals from western Pennsylvania.

This year marks the 20th annual Walk to Beat Diabetes. Each year, Mr. Robert Mander, a postal worker from Carapiscus, PA, leads a small band of dedicated volunteers on a 100-mile walk from Erie, PA, to Pittsburgh to raise money for diabetes research. The walk will begin this year on October 10 and end on October 12.

Mr. Mander started this project 20 years ago after his daughter was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes. His personal experience with this terrible disease motivated him to begin raising money to support diabetes research.

Each year, Mr. Mander and his fellow walkers cover the 100 miles between Erie and Pittsburgh over the course of 3 grueling days. A number of generous sponsors provide food, lodging, supplies, and clothing for the volunteers. Many family members, contributors, and well-wishers join the walkers for the last few miles. The walk ends at the McKnight Siebert Shopping Center in Township, where a raffle is held for sports memorabilia to raise more money for diabetes research. This year, the walkers hope to raise \$20,000 for diabetes research.

Mr. Mander is a Vietnam veteran who is active in the V.F.W. He serves on the board of directors of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Diabetes Association, and he has raised money for arthritis research and the March of Dimes as well as for the ADA.

Mr. Speaker, I salute these brave volunteers, and I want to especially commend Mr. Robert Mander for 20 years of unstinting dedication to this worthy cause.

SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS RE-
AUTHORIZATION AND AMEND-
MENTS ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 29, 1997

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2261, the Small Business Programs Reauthorization and Amendments Act. The Small Business Administration provides the principal form of disaster relief for communities struck by tragedy. On August 21 and 22, 13½ inches of rain fell in Atlantic County in my district in a matter of hours. This downpour ended up causing \$54 million in estimated damage, impacting more than 5,000 homes and businesses. Because a bulk of the area is not located in a flood plain, many of the impacted families and business owners did not have flood insurance.

Last week, the President declared Atlantic County a disaster area making the area eligible for Federal assistance. A bulk of this assistance, which is made up of low-interest loans for home repairs and property and inventory damage, will come from the Small Business Administration. The people benefiting from this aid are small business owners and hard-working families, many of which were told they did not have to have flood insurance because they were located in a low-risk area. Where do these people turn when suddenly they have to come up with thousands upon thousands of dollars to replace such essential items as water heaters, washer/dryers, and furnaces? Many of them turn to the Small Business Administration. As we speak, representatives from the Small Business Administration are holding workshops in my district for individuals interested in applying for low-interest disaster loans. They have issued more than 2,000 loan applications and have already made several approvals since they started taking applications last week.

The Small Business Administration fulfills a vital need for disaster victims. For individuals and businesses that cannot recoup their losses through insurance, the SBA provides a safety net that enables people to put their lives back together after a devastating natural disaster. I am proud to support H.R. 2261 and I hope we can secure swift passage of this vital legislation.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE
EXPORT-IMPORT BANK

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL ARCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1370) to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States:

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank of the United States. This institution is absolutely vital to our Nation in order to keep American companies and workers competitive in the world marketplace.

My philosophy on trade has always been that we should take every step possible to make it free and fair for all countries, and that purchases should be made based on quality, price, and service. I firmly believe that, under such circumstances, American companies will excel. Unfortunately, as my colleagues know, this is not always the case today. In a perfect world, France, Germany, Japan, England and our other competitors would not provide unfair advantages to their exporters. If that were the case, we would be having a different debate today. We would not need the Exim Bank to level the playing field.

However, the fact remains that the Exim Bank finances American exports where commercial financing is simply not available or competitive and where, without government action, the sale would be lost. The Exim Bank does this at a low cost to the taxpayers and with a tremendous positive impact on the American economy. Last year alone, Exim Bank supported over 200,000 high quality American jobs.

It is also important to note that the Exim Bank is not a giveaway program. The Bank must be repaid every dollar it lends, and has had a default rate of only 1.0 percent over the last 15 years. This is significantly better than our own commercial banks have performed over the same period of time.

Last week I met with Mr. James Harmon, the new president of Exim Bank. Frankly, I was impressed with his determination to institute management and policy changes at the Bank that will make it an even better value for the taxpayers. He has some great innovative ideas that will help make American companies even more competitive in the 21st century. I look forward to working with him and I urge my colleagues to vote against unilateral economic disarmament and vote in favor of reauthorizing the Export-Import Bank.

IN HONOR OF DR. H. BEECHER
HICKS, JR.

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in praise of Rev. Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, who is the senior minister at Metropolitan Baptist Church in Washington, DC and one of the Nation's great preachers. He is a brilliant spiritual leader, a

renowned author, a distinguished civic leader, and an outspoken champion of the rights of District residents.

I rise to recognize Pastor Hicks on the occasion of the Metropolitan Baptist Church's 20th Pastoral Jubilee for their pastor, when the more than 7,000 members of the church are celebrating his many accomplishments and contributions. Pastor Hicks has been a leader in bringing women into the ministry and has advocated the ordination of women. He has established programs at the church that are much-praised models for churches around the Nation for people living with AIDS and their families, for prison inmates, for seniors, and for youth. He has rebuilt his historic church and made it a center for revitalization of its inner city neighborhood.

Dr. Hicks has become a leading voice in pursuing the democratic right of self government for District residents. When the Congress forced a death penalty referendum on the District in 1992, Dr. Hicks was chair of the campaign against the death penalty. He led the campaign not only as a civic leader of the community, but also as a minister of the Gospel who, like many of the ministers in the District, opposes the death penalty on religious grounds.

Dr. Hicks' dissertation for his doctoral degree from Colgate Rochester Divinity School in 1972, "Images of the Black Preacher: The Man Nobody Knows," was published in 1977. Since then he has been widely published in religious publications. His two most recent volumes are "Preaching Through a Storm" and "Correspondence with a Cripple From Tar-sus."

In recognition of his extraordinary talent in his calling, *Ebony* named Dr. Hicks one of the "Fifteen Greatest African-American Preachers" in 1993. Mr. Speaker, I ask that Members of this body, the U.S. House of Representatives, join me in saluting the dynamic leadership of Rev. Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Jr.

MEDICARE AND MEDICAID BENEFICIARY PROTECTION ACT OF 1997

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Medicare and Medicaid Beneficiary Protection Act of 1997, a bill designed to continue our fight against health care fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare and Medicaid Programs.

THE PROBLEM

The General Accounting Office [GAO] has estimated that fraud and abuse could be as much as 10 percent of total health care spending. This best estimate—that 10 percent of the Nation's \$1 trillion health bill is lost in waste, fraud, and abuse—includes both the private and public sector. Consider this . . . Federal baseline outlays for Medicare are approximately \$208 billion in fiscal year 1998—and 10 percent of waste, fraud, and abuse roughly equals the \$23 billion we cut each year in this year's budget reconciliation bill. If we were tougher on health care fraud, we wouldn't have to cut payments from the honest, hardworking providers who justly should receive payment for their services.

A recent audit by the Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General [HHS OIG] estimated that approximately \$23 billion—about 14 percent of the total Medicare fee-for-service benefit payments—had been improperly paid through the Medicare system. These errors included everything from simple mistakes to outright fraud. Most improper payments were due to the lack of any or adequate documentation to support the claimed service—lack of medical necessity; incorrect coding; and noncovered or unallowable services. All the money improperly paid, however, was wasteful.

RECENT LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS ARE PROMISING BUT NOT ENOUGH

We should be proud of recent legislative efforts. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 made significant strides in combating fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare and Medicaid Programs. With bipartisan cooperation, we enacted unprecedented tools for fighting what has become one of the favorite crimes of the 1990's—cheating the Government of billions of dollars through health care fraud. This new legislation designs a fraud fighting program that coordinates the efforts of a broad array of law enforcement and health care agencies. Equally as important, it authorizes funding to support the work of law enforcement and the development of new detection and enforcement techniques.

Total fines, restitutions and recoveries achieved this year from OIG criminal and civil investigations totaled \$1.2 billion. This is five times higher than recoveries for fiscal year 1996. Approximately 2,500 health care providers and entities were excluded from doing business with the Medicare, Medicaid, and other Federal and State health care programs because of violations of the law—an 80-percent increase from the 1,400 exclusions in fiscal year 1996.

Although we're heading in the right direction, massive fraud schemes to defraud the Government continue. Here are just a few examples.

A psychologist billed for more than 24 hours of therapy in a single day.

A home health agency charged for visits to patients' homes when the patients were actually hospitalized.

A nursing home submitted claims for surgical dressings on behalf of patients who had not undergone surgery.

A fictitious diagnostic firm collected payment for nonexistent lab work on dead people.

One beneficiary was charged \$5,290 for tape over a 6-month period of which \$5,000 was excessive. Medicare paid for but the beneficiary probably did not receive, 66,000 feet or 12.5 miles of 1-inch tape.

Although recent legislation is a good first step, we need to do more. In a August 19, 1997, statement, Gregory Anderson, director of corporate and financial investigations for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan said it best—despite increased enforcement and the publicity of million dollar settlements with large, multi-State health corporations, "the rewards outweigh the risks today."

The bill I am introducing today aggressively continues the fight. My message should be clear to those who do business with Medicare and Medicaid—the fight against health care fraud is just beginning.

FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDITS SHOULD BE A COST OF DOING BUSINESS WITH MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

I want to highlight one particular provision in this bill—the use of compliance and financial audits. Unfortunately, it's relatively easy for fraudulent operators to escape detection because the Health Care Financing Administration [HCFA], which oversees the Medicare and Medicaid Programs, is woefully lacking in resources to provide adequate oversight and to track down abusers. Over the past 7 years, the number of Medicare claims processed rose 70 percent, while HCFA's budget for reviewing claims grew less than 11 percent. Adjusting for claims growth and inflation, funding for review dropped from 74 cents to 48 cents per claim. As a result, the proportion of claims reviewed dropped from 17 percent to 9 percent. In the especially problematic home health area, reviews plummeted from 62 percent in 1987 to a target of 3 percent in 1996.

In many industries, it is standard operating procedure for businesses to fund independent audits of their compliance with Federal laws and regulations. For example, banks have paid for independent government financial and compliance audits since the 1800's. In fact, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency is a special branch of the Treasury Department that is fully funded through fees it assesses for conducting bank audits. It's time we do the same for providers and suppliers who do business with the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Health care spending consumes an ever-increasing portion of the Federal budget—now at least 20 percent. And the Federal Government pays a third of our Nation's health care bills—more than any other single source. We are the largest purchaser—isn't it time we become a wiser purchaser? And isn't it imperative that we have tighter reins on an area that consumes so many of our tax dollars?

Banks have for many decades borne the financial responsibility for demonstrating their legitimacy. It is an accepted cost of the privilege of keeping other people's money. Medicare and Medicaid providers are being given the privilege of taking taxpayers' money, without the corresponding responsibility for proving their legitimacy. The appalling level of fraud, waste and abuse in the programs is the unfortunate result.

HHS doesn't have the funding to audit all categories of providers that have abusive track records. Even if it did, taxpayers shouldn't have to foot the bill. Twenty three billion dollars says it's time to make Federal audits a cost of doing business with the Nation's largest health care payer, the Federal Government.

WE SHOULD BE DILIGENT IN OUR FIGHT AGAINST HEALTH CARE FRAUD

It's simple for me—individuals found to intentionally, systematically and repeatedly defraud Medicare and Medicaid should go to jail. We should have a zero tolerance for repeat offenders. We should not hide behind free market language as an excuse for criminal behavior. The fight against health care fraud should be aggressive and on-going. Medicare beneficiaries deserve the best we can offer—quality care at an affordable price with strong protections against unscrupulous providers.

The following is a summary of the bill:

I. Title I—Revisions to Sanctions for Fraud and Abuse

A. Subtitle A—Exclusion Authority

1. Sec. 101—Clarifies the application of mandatory exclusion based on felony convictions relating to controlled substances to individuals involved in health care.

2. Sec. 102—Clarifies the period of exclusion based on loss of license.

3. Sec. 103—Clarifies the application of sanctions to Federal health care programs.

B. Subtitle B—Civil Monetary Penalties

1. Sec. 111—Repeals the clarifications concerning levels of knowledge required for the imposition of civil monetary penalties.

2. Sec. 112—Allows for civil monetary penalties to be applied for services ordered or prescribed by an excluded individual or entity.

3. Sec. 113—Permits HHS to pursue civil monetary penalty actions after consulting with the Attorney General.

4. Sec. 114—Clarifies payment practice exception authority to definition of remuneration.

5. Sec. 115—Extends subpoena and injunction authority.

6. Sec. 116—Clarifies amounts of civil monetary penalties.

7. Sec. 117—Applies anti-dumping sanctions against physicians who refuse an appropriate transfer at a hospital with specialized capabilities or facilities.

C. Subtitle C—Criminal Penalties

1. Sec. 121—Kickback penalties for knowing violations

2. Sec. 122—Repeals expanded exception for risk-sharing contract to anti-kickback provisions

3. Sec. 123—Expands criminal penalties for kickbacks

4. Sec. 124—Treats certain Social Security Act crimes as Federal health care offenses

D. Subtitle D—Miscellaneous Provisions

1. Sec. 131—Repeals HIPAA advisory opinion authority

2. Sec. 132—Clarifies identification numbers to be used with adverse action data base

3. Sec. 133—Clarifies who may have access to information in adverse action data bank

II. Title II—Improvements in Providing Program Integrity

A. Subtitle A—General Provisions

1. Sec. 201—Limits the use of automatic stays and discharge in bankruptcy proceedings for provider liability for health care fraud.

2. Sec. 202—Requires certain providers to fund annual financial and compliance audits as a condition of participation under the Medicare and Medicaid programs

3. Sec. 203—Makes clear that Medicare carriers and fiscal intermediaries and State Medicaid agencies are liable for claims submitted by excluded providers.

4. Sec. 204—Reforms Medicare Hospital Outpatient Payment Policies.

5. Sec. 205—Standardizes forms used for certifications of medical necessity and certifications of terminal illness.

6. Sec. 206—No mark-up for drugs, biologicals or nutrients; requires use of national drug code numbers in Medicare claims.

7. Sec. 207—Adjusts hospital payments to reflect excess payment resulting from a financial interest with downstream facilities.

Subtitle B—Other Provisions

1. Sec. 211—Inclusion of cost of home health services in explanation of Medicare benefits.

2. Sec. 212—Prohibits "cold-call" marketing for Medicare+Choice plans.

III. Title III—Provider Enrollment Process—Fees

1. Sec. 301—Fees for agreements with Medicare providers and suppliers.

2. Sec. 302—Establishes requirements and fees for Medicare overpayment collections.

3. Sec. 303—Requires an administrative fee for Medicare overpayment collection.

IV. Title IV—Payment Improvements

A. Subtitle A—Mental Health Partial Hospitalization Services

1. Sec. 401—Limits location of provision of services.

2. Sec. 402—Clarifies qualifications for community mental health centers.

3. Sec. 403—Requires audit of providers of partial hospitalization services.

4. Sec. 404—Implements prospective payment system for partial hospitalization services.

5. Sec. 405—Provides for a demonstration program for expanded partial hospitalization services.

B. Subtitle B—Rural Health Clinic Services

1. Sec. 411—Decreases beneficiary cost sharing for rural health clinic services.

2. Sec. 412—Implements a prospective payment system for rural health clinic services.

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE HEARINGS
ARE CREATING AN ATMOSPHERE
OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST
ASIAN-AMERICANS**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, a number of concerns have been expressed over the past few months regarding the manner in which Chairman BURTON and the majority members of the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee have conducted their investigation into campaign finance abuses during the 1996 election campaign. There have been complaints that the investigation is too partisan, that it is duplicative and poorly managed. After 9 months and literally millions in taxpayer funds, this investigation has been beset with delays, staff resignations, poorly conducted investigations, and bungled procedures.

At the recent meeting of the committee at which committee members voted to extend immunity to a few witnesses who will testify at a hearing later this week, I raised a matter of the most serious concern to me. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of the House those concerns which I raised during the meeting of the committee.

Mr. Speaker, this House and the committee investigating campaign finance must be particularly sensitive about the possible discriminatory effects that the investigation may have on Asian-Americans. There is a grave danger that stereotyping and Asian bashing will become, and in many instances have become, part and parcel of this investigation.

There is a long history of discrimination against Asian-Americans in this country. We all remember chapters of that history, perhaps the most shameful of which is the incarceration of tens of thousands of United States citizens of Japanese origin during the Second World War.

This investigation, perhaps inadvertently, has contributed to stereotyping and race bait-

ing. As one who is singularly conscious of this issue, I want to call attention to this issue, because Asian-Americans have as much right to participate in the political process as do Americans of any other national origin. Deliberately or otherwise, Asian-Americans have been the target of both of these investigations to an unacceptable and overwhelming degree.

While some might consider the question of Asian bashing ludicrous and outrageous. Organizations representing Asian-Americans do not. A petition with the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights was filed on behalf of the leading organizations representing Asian-Americans. These organizations believe that members of some of this Nation's most important institutions have acted irresponsibly and carelessly to allegations of campaign finance wrongdoing by scapegoating and stereotyping of Asian-Americans.

In point of fact, affiliates and subsidiaries of foreign-owned corporations have made vastly greater contributions to both political parties than the issues that we are dealing with in the Burton investigation. A Canadian-owned corporation gave \$2 million to the political parties. An Australian-owned corporation gave \$674,000, and an additional \$1 million to the California Republican Party. Brown and Williamson, a British-owned tobacco company, gave \$642,000.

None of these foreign-owned corporations have been the subject of any inquiry by either the Senate or House committee. As a matter of fact, in July, the Federal Election Commission levied the largest fine in history on a foreign contribution, and that contribution was made by a citizen of German origin. He has not been hauled before either committee.

Mr. Speaker, it would be absurd and an escape from reality to argue that there is not an Asian tone to these hearings. It is my hope that as hearings in the House commence that we will all remain acutely conscious of these most sensitive issues.

**IN HONOR OF NEW YORK STATE
SENATOR LEONARD P. STAVISKY**

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, one of the pleasures of serving in this legislative body is the opportunity we occasionally get to acknowledge publicly outstanding individuals in our communities.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Democratic Association of New York will be presenting its first ever Life-Time Achievement Award to State Senator, and dear friend of mine, Leonard P. Stavisky. To list the accomplishments of this great man would take up more pages that I would be allocated in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. To those of us who know him so well, I do not have to tell you of the Senator's accomplishments in the field of education, city and State government, and the many issues with which he has been involved. I am just amazed that one person could accomplish so much.

I congratulate you Leonard for over 30 years of service dedicated to the public good. Your example and your friendship over the years has meant so much to me, and I am

just grateful for the opportunity to honor you with a CONGRESSIONAL RECORD statement.

ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S 86TH ANNIVERSARY NATIONAL DAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow in San Francisco, which I am privileged to represent in the U.S. Congress, a special celebration will take place marking the 86th Anniversary of the National Day of the Republic of China. I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues this, the "Double Tenth" celebration of freedom.

The people of the United States have a special bond with the people of the Republic of China [Taiwan], who have unflinchingly demonstrated to the world their commitment to democracy under steady pressure. The Republic of China is a vibrant, thriving nation for the present and a model for the future—a model characterized by strong economic growth and respect for basic human rights and democratic freedoms.

The Republic of China is an important partner of the United States, economically, culturally, strategically, and politically. I am proud to relay to the Double Tenth celebrants in San Francisco the support and best wishes of the Republic of China's many friends in Congress. I congratulate the participants in this festival of freedom on their 86th Anniversary National Day and look forward to celebrating this historic event annually for many, many years to come.

PRINCIPLES FOR PRACTICAL DRUG POLICIES

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I believe that one of the areas in American public policy where debate is the most retarded and stunted is that of drug policy. For too many of us in elected office, debating drug policy means engaging in a competition to show how tough one can be, without regard for how intelligent one is. In many areas of public policy we have come to the thoughtful realization that good intentions do not necessarily solve a problem, and that persisting in failed policies may make political sense, but rarely serves as a useful way to achieve real progress in improving society. Unfortunately, none of this seems to have penetrated the area of drugs, where despite the enormous shortcomings of the current excessively punitive policy, which does not do nearly as much as we could do to reduce drug use, and, in fact, exacerbates some problems, elected officials appear afraid to reexamine the issue.

For this reason, I was delighted to read the report of the drug policy project of the Federation of American Scientists. A group organized by the FAS recently issued an extremely useful statement, embodying a set of principles for practical drug policies. The list of those

subscribing to these policies is an impressive one, and while I doubt that any single Member of Congress will agree with all of the principles—indeed I doubt that any single member of the group agrees fully with all of the principles—it represents a very important step forward in trying to produce rational discussion of public policy in the drug area, both because it seeks to break the taboo against precisely this sort of discussion, and because of the common sense embodied in the principles themselves.

Because I believe it is very important that we break out of the intellectual rut in which drug policy is now mired, I ask that this statement be printed here, along with the list of endorsers.

PRINCIPLES FOR PRACTICAL DRUG POLICIES

As a step toward redirecting discussion and action around drug abuse control into more useful channels, we propose the following as reasonable and moderate principles for practical drug policies.

1. [Why drug policy?] Any activity that diminishes normal capacities for self-control can create dangers for those who engage in it and for those around them. Drugs that threaten self-control, either through intoxication or through addiction, are therefore matters of social as well as personal concern. This applies to licit and illicit substances alike.

2. [Science and policy] Drug policies should be based on the best available knowledge and analysis and should be judged by the results they produce rather than by the intentions they embody. Too often, policies designed for their symbolic value have unanticipated and unwanted consequences.

[Minimizing overall damage] Drug control policies should be designed to minimize the damage done to individuals, to social institutions, and to the public health by (a) licit and illicit drug-taking, (b) drug trafficking, and (c) the drug control measures themselves. Damage can be reduced by shrinking the extent of drug abuse as well as by reducing the harm incident to any given level of drug consumption.

[Forms of damage] The forms of damage to be minimized—whether caused by drugs or drug control measures—include illness and accidents, crimes against person and property, corruption and disorder, disruption of family and other human relationships, loss of educational and economic opportunities, loss of productivity, loss of dignity and autonomy, loss of personal liberty and privacy, interference in pain management and other aspects of the practice of medicine, and the costs of public and private interventions.

5. [Laws and regulations] Laws and regulations are among the primary means of preventing drug abuse. Lifting prohibition on a substance is likely to increase its consumption, perhaps dramatically. Some substances present dangers such that even limited licit availability, other than for medically supervised use, would be unlikely to yield the desired minimum-damage outcome. Therefore, we cannot escape our current predicament by "ending prohibition" or "legalizing drugs."

6. [Enforcement for results] Enforcement and punishment, like other policies, should be designed to minimize overall damage. As long as some substances are illegal or tightly regulated, there will be attempts to evade those controls and therefore a need for enforcement and sanctions, in some cases including imprisonment. The use of disproportionate punishments to express social norms is neither just nor a prudent use of public funds and scarce prison capacity.

7. [Stance towards users] Social disapproval of substance abuse can be a power-

ful and economical means of reducing its extent. Such disapproval should not be translated into indiscriminate hostility towards all drug users based solely on their drug use. Persons who violate the rights of others under the influence of intoxicants or in order to obtain intoxicants are to be held fully responsible for their actions, criminally as well as civilly.

8. [Tailoring policies to drugs] Alcohol is familiar and widely accepted, yet it shares the intoxicating and addictive risks of some of the illicit drugs. Current policies make alcohol too easily and cheaply available and allow it to be too aggressively promoted. The resulting damage to users and others is very large. Taxation, regulation, and public information are all justified means to the end of reducing that damage.

10. [What about tobacco?] Nicotine, as commonly used, is not an intoxicant. But its addictive potential is great, and chronic cigarette smoking carries severe health risks. The wide prevalence of tobacco use under current policies makes cigarette smoking the leading cause of preventable early death. More stringent regulation is needed to protect the public health.

11. [Valuing treatment properly] Successful treatment for people with substance abuse disorders produces benefits for those treated and for those around them. Treatment episodes that reduce drug use and damage to self and others but do not produce immediate, complete, and lasting abstinence ought to be regarded as incomplete successes rather than as unredeemed failures.

12. [Prevention] For drug abuse as for other ills, the more successful the prevention effort the less the need for remediation. Developing and implementing effective drug abuse prevention strategies, especially for minors, is an essential means of drug abuse control. Prevention messages should accurately reflect what is known about the effects and risks of the substances they discuss.

13. [Taking measured steps] Drug policies need to be updated as social conditions change and the base of scientific knowledge grows. Policy changes that can be introduced incrementally and evaluated step by step are to be preferred over sweeping changes with less predictable consequences.

14. [Integrity and civility] Debate about drug policies engages deeply felt values and therefore often becomes heated and even acrimonious. Civility and honesty about facts, proposals, and motives can serve both to improve drug policies and to advance the broader public interest in healthy political discourse.

These principles may seem straightforward, hardly needing to be said. That they are in fact controversial illustrates something important about the way drugs and drug policy now tend to be discussed.

The current drug policy debate is marked by polarization into two positions stereotyped as "drug warrior" and "legalizer." This creates the false impression that "ending prohibition" is the only alternative to an unrestricted "war on drugs," effectively disenfranchising citizens who find both of those options unsatisfactory. Polarization and strong emotions give rise to misrepresentations of facts and motives, oversimplification of complex issues, and denial of uncertainty.

In the face of strong opposition, some of those who favor fundamental changes in the drug laws have elected to concentrate on more modest proposals which they intend as way stations towards their unstated longer-term goals. Partly as a consequence, some of those devoted to maintaining or intensifying present anti-drug efforts have taken to dismissing all criticisms of current policies—

even those based on solid research showing that one or another policy or program fails to serve its stated aim—as mere fronts for a covert “legalization” effort.

In this climate, every idea, research finding, or proposal put forth is scrutinized to determine which agenda it advances, and the partisans on each side are quick to brand anyone who deviates from their “party line” as an agent of the opposing side. As a result, propositions of dubious validity achieve the status of loyalty oaths, and questions that ought to be addressed on technical and practical grounds (what works in prevention, how well interdiction performs, which treatment approaches help which clients) are instead debated as matters of ideological conviction.

The tendency in each camp is to focus on only one face of the problem. One extreme talks as if the miseries surrounding drug distribution and abuse are entirely the product of unwise policies. The other is just as likely to say or imply that the damage comes entirely from the drugs themselves. In fact, both drugs and drug policies cause harm. Any policy, including inaction, does harm as well as good. Once that is acknowledged, we can begin the hard work of shaping policies that do more good than harm. That work will demand reasoned analysis and scientific respect for evidence, and doing it well will require learning from mistakes rather than denying them.

ENDORSEMENTS—PRINCIPLES FOR PRACTICAL DRUG POLICIES

Hamilton Beazley, former President, National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence.

George E. Bigelow, Professor of Behavioral Biology in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Joseph V. Brady, Professor of Behavioral Biology in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Professor of Neuroscience, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

William J. Bratton, CEO, First Security Consulting; former Commissioner of the New York City Police Department.

Jonathan P. Caulkins, Professor of Public Affairs, Carnegie-Mellon University.

Philip J. Cook, Professor of Economics and Policy Studies and Acting Director of the Terry Sanford Institute for Public Policy, Duke University.

Harriet de Wit, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, University of Chicago.

John J. Dilulio Jr., Professor of Politics and Public Affairs at Princeton University and Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution.

William A. Donohue, President, Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights.

Peter Edelman, Professor, Georgetown University Law Center and former Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Margaret E. Ensminger, Associate Professor of Health and Policy Management, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health; joint appointment in Psychiatry, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Marian W. Fischman, Professor of Behavioral Biology, Department of Psychiatry, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Avram Goldstein, M.D., Professor Emeritus of Pharmacology, Stanford University.

Roland Griffiths, Professor of Behavioral Biology, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Professor of Neuroscience, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Francis X. Hartmann, Executive Director, Program in Criminal Justice Policy and

Management, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

Chris-Ellyn Johanson, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences, Wayne State University School of Medicine.

Reese T. Jones, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry, University of California, San Francisco.

Carl Kaysen, Professor Emeritus of Political Economy, MIT, and former Director, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton.

David McLean Kennedy, Senior Researcher, Program in Criminal Justice Policy and Management, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

Sheppard G. Kellam, M.D., Professor of Mental Hygiene, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene & Public Health; joint appointment in Psychiatry, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

Mark A.R. Kleiman, Professor, School of Public Policy and Social Research, University of California, Los Angeles.

Stanley Korenman, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean, UCLA Medical School.

Robert E. Litan, Director of Economic Studies, Brookings Institution; former Associate Director, U.S. Government Office of Management and Budget.

Glenn Loury, University Professor, Professor of Economics, and Director of the Institute on Race and Social Division, Boston University.

Robert MacCoun, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, University of California at Berkeley.

Mark H. Moore, Professor of Criminal Justice Policy and Management, Harvard University.

Dennis E. Nowicki, Chief of Police, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, North Carolina.

John O'Hair, Prosecuting Attorney, Wayne County (Detroit), Michigan.

Peter Reuter, Professor of Public Affairs and Criminology, University of Maryland.

Michell S. Rosenthal, M.D., President, Phoenix House Foundation.

Sally L. Satel, Lecturer, Yale Medical School.

Thomas C. Schelling, Distinguished University Professor at University of Maryland.

Charles R. Schuster, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences and Director of the Clinical Research Division on Substance Abuse, Wayne State University School of Medicine; former Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Lewis Seiden, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Pharmacology, University of Chicago.

Solomon H. Snyder, M.D., Distinguished Service Professor of Neuroscience, Pharmacology, and Psychiatry; Director, Department of Neuroscience, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

George Vaillant, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL BLACK McDONALD'S OPERATOR'S ASSOCIATION 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce the 25th anniversary of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association. The association will hold its biennial convention October 7–10 in the Miami metropolitan area.

The establishment of the association grew out of McDonald's concern over riots following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In the aftermath, McDonald's national management team expressed its belief that community business leaders, and in this instance, black community business leaders, were best able to address the issues and concerns of their communities.

On December 21, 1968, Herman Petty of Chicago became the first black owner/operator of a McDonald's franchise. Soon thereafter, McDonald's experienced a black-owned franchise growth spur. By the end of 1969, there were 12 black-operated McDonald's restaurants throughout the country. Today, there are over 300 franchises in the association, with a total of 800 restaurants nationwide.

This year's theme—“Pride in Progress”—reflects the association's commitment to teamwork in their efforts to improve the communities where they live and their businesses prosper. We often are encouraged to give back to our communities. For 25 years, members of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association have done that through scholarship programs, regional cooperative projects, and individual donations to special projects.

Mr. Speaker, I believe in free enterprise and strong economic growth. I also believe that the best antidote to despair and racism is full participation in our strong and growing economy. The black American business women and men of this association know that they must take the initiative to bring the spark of enterprise to their inner cities while striving to reach those communities that prosperity has passed.

As the National Black McDonald's Operators Association celebrates this impressive milestone, I salute the members for their philanthropic commitment and for their embodiment of the American spirit.

RECOGNITION OF ASHLEY CHOATE

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, three times a year, a select group of high school juniors come to our Nation's Capital to serve in the congressional page program. Sixty-six of the best and brightest young men and women head to Washington for a semester in the Halls of Congress. This semester, one of my own constituents was chosen as a congressional page. Today, I am pleased to recognize Ashley Choate, of Dana Point, CA, as a member of the fall of 1997 class of congressional pages.

Ashley has not only excelled in academics at Dana Hills High School, but she has given back to her community and found the time to participate in high school athletics. It is truly commendable that Ashley was able to hold on to her 3.45 grade-point average while volunteering at an orphanage in Mexico and selling Christmas trees to raise money for her church. She also found the time to play softball for her high school during her freshman and sophomore years prior to coming to the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, Ashley Choate is truly deserving of commendation. She is a wonderful individual and was recently recognized by the Los

Angeles Times in an article of September 24, 1997, for earning the distinction of serving as a congressional page. I am especially pleased that she was chosen as a page in the House of Representatives. However, I am more pleased to have Ashley as an official representative of the 48th District of California. She is truly exceptional. I wish her well.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH STEWART
CARLSON—A QUIET AMERICAN
HEROINE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, few Members of this House have had the good fortune that I have enjoyed since I first became a Member in 1981. My greatest good fortune has been to have a district office staff of extraordinary high caliber.

For most of the 17 years that I have served in this body, I have benefited enormously from the dedication of a quiet, dignified, vital American heroine, special assistant in my district office, Elizabeth Stewart Carlson. Just a few days ago on October 3, we celebrated her 80th birthday, and at the same time we marked the beginning of another decade of dedicated service to the lives of so many by this wise, wonderful, and brave woman.

Elizabeth Carlson has been firmly rooted in the San Francisco Bay Area all of her life. Her father served for some time as the mayor of the City of Vallejo in the East Bay. As were so many in our area and elsewhere in our Nation, Betty Carlson was deeply affected by her teenage experience in the Bay Area during the Great Depression of the 1930's. Although her own family escaped some of the worst consequences of that difficult period, she saw the lives and health of others visibly ground down by deprivation and suffering. It was during that time that Betty Carlson first practiced and learned her quiet courage.

Mr. Speaker, this early observation of widespread suffering produced a desire in Betty Carlson to serve humanity. She graduated as a registered nurse in time to serve in Bay Area hospitals during the Second World War, and, in recognition of her care and compassion, she received the award for Outstanding Graduate after One Year from the Mount Zion School of Nursing. Then, and throughout her entire 30-year career in nursing, Betty applied kindness, careful treatment, common sense, and empathy to countless patients, some of them very ill and dying.

Betty Carlson's first husband, who had a career in law enforcement, met an early death in a line-of-duty accident. Because of her husband's profession, Betty lived a life of particular courage. The families of individuals which have pursued careers in public safety know the daily bravery required to watch a loved one go off to work with the knowledge of the personal danger that is involved.

Betty Carlson did not sit idly at home and wait, however. In addition to her professional nursing career, she was fully engaged in activities to support their son Frank. She continued her motherly responsibilities after her second marriage to Sten Carlson, and, with the birth of their son Eric, her responsibilities in-

creased in such areas as the PTA, Boy Scouts, and other youth groups.

In addition to her efforts with those groups that were important to her family, Betty Carlson has provided leadership and countless hours of service to many major civic and philanthropic organizations during Sten's long and dedicated service with United Airlines, and since his retirement.

The skill, compassion, courage, and leadership which Betty Carlson developed and demonstrated in her family, civic life, and formal nursing career during the first 30 years of her adult life would have made her a most highly valued member of my congressional staff. But one horrible experience she endured in 1974 has brought Betty enormous suffering, heroic reaffirmation, and positive public social action.

Mr. Speaker, in 1974, Betty Carlson's son Frank and his young wife Annette were viciously attacked in their San Francisco home. In one of the most reprehensible and appalling crimes that I have ever known about, Frank and his wife Annette were brutally and senselessly tortured and then left for dead. Betty's beloved son Frank died during that long and tragic night. Annette, Frank's wife and Betty's daughter-in-law, miraculously survived.

It is entirely fitting that we view Betty Carlson's suffering since that tragic event, her resulting religious struggle and reaffirmation, and the ongoing, quiet heroism of her principled and constructive public response in a similar light to the response of the heroic, non-violent Guatemalan Mayan Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu, after the similarly terrible torture and murder of her mother.

With the help of Betty's husband Sten and other loved ones, prayer, pastoral counsel, her own great courage, and the healing of time, Betty Carlson survived, and has helped her son's wife to live an active and productive life. Betty cofounded and served as president of the group Justice for Murder Victims. In 20 years, this group has greatly improved public awareness and to some extent improved our laws in dealing with families of the victims of murder. I have the greatest respect for Betty Carlson's ongoing service and the kindness mixed with common sense which she has shown toward many who have suffered.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of Betty Carlson's 80th birthday I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding woman. We extend to her our very best wishes that she may continue to offer many more years of public service, commitment to her religious community, and a joyous family life with her husband Sten, her son Eric, and her daughters-in-law Wai Ling and Annette.

TRIBUTE TO AILEEN HARPER

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Aileen Harper for her extraordinary contributions and dedication to the Center for Health Care Rights in Los Angeles.

The Center for Health Care Rights is a California-based nonprofit organization dedicated to assuring consumer access to quality health care through information, education, counsel-

ing, advocacy, and research programs. Founded in 1984 as the Medicare Advocacy Project, the Center for Health Care Rights has gained widespread recognition as a leader among the State's health insurance counseling and advocacy programs. The center offers more than 1 million Medicare beneficiaries in Los Angeles County a free, one-stop service center that provides much needed counseling and education.

The success of the Center for Health Care Rights depends greatly upon its devoted and knowledgeable staff. Aileen is being presented with the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program Service Award for her ongoing leadership and vision at the center. This past September marked her 13th anniversary with the center. During her tenure, Aileen has developed and managed programs in community education and counseling designed to provide assistance with Medicare, managed care, long-term care, and other related health insurance matters that Medicare beneficiaries face in Los Angeles County.

Aileen currently serves as the director of district service programs, continuing her long-time commitment to serving the center's clients, particularly the underserved elderly and disabled populations who seek the center's counsel. She has also developed extensive experience with consumer concerns and protections in Medicare and managed care, having authored a number of consumer training materials that are used not only by the center, but by other Medicare advocates in California as well.

Our community owes Aileen a debt of gratitude for her significant accomplishments and distinguished record of achievement. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding her tremendous efforts and in wishing her happiness and success for the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MARRIAGE
PENALTY RELIEF ACT

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of H.R. 2593, the Marriage Penalty Relief Act. I am pleased to report that a bipartisan group of my colleagues, including Mrs. KENNELLY, Mr. WELLER, Mr. CRANE, Mr. SHAW, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. CAMP, Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. DUNN, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. COYNE have joined me in this effort to provide relief to those couples who pay more in taxes simply because they are married.

Now that the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 has been signed into law, Congress must begin to consider its options for further tax relief in 1998. While this year's landmark tax cut does provide important benefits to students, investors, small business owners, and families with children, no specific provisions were included to assist those families victimized by the marriage penalty. I strongly believe that marriage penalty relief should figure prominently into the next tax cut passed by Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the marriage penalty imposes a substantial burden on a great many American families. According to a recent report by the Congressional Budget Office, the average marriage penalty was nearly \$1,400 in 1996. Indeed, under 1996 tax law, married couples could have owed the IRS more than \$20,000 in additional taxes compared to what they would have owed had they not been married. This is patently unfair, Mr. Speaker, and Congress must act to provide these families the relief that they deserve.

As financial pressures push more and more nonworking spouses into the labor force, an increasing number of families fall prey to marriage penalties. Indeed, CBO estimates that 42 percent of all married couples—some 21 million families—incurred marriage penalties in 1996. One of the major reasons why so many of these joint filers face this added tax burden is that the very first dollar earned by a family's lower earning spouse is taxed at the marginal rate of the higher earning spouse. Exempting some of the lower earning spouse's income from tax would mitigate this unfair situation, providing significant relief to the millions of Americans who face a higher tax bill solely because they are married.

Mr. Speaker, two-earner married couples were once entitled to a significant tax deduction to help offset the marriage penalties that are built into the Internal Revenue Code. However, the Code no longer permits these families to take advantage of this deduction. The Marriage Penalty Relief Act would simply restore this two-earner deduction, once again allowing couples a 10-percent deduction for up to \$30,000 of the lower earning spouse's income. While this approach will not eliminate the marriage penalty in all cases, it will provide meaningful relief to victims of this unfair tax—at roughly one-third the estimated revenue cost of outright elimination.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that providing families relief from the marriage penalty should be a major legislative priority during the next session of the 105th Congress. I am pleased that the approach adopted in my legislation has already attracted substantial bipartisan support, and I would urge the rest of my colleagues to cosponsor the Marriage Penalty Relief Act.

GUAM BATTLES FAMILY VIOLENCE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, last week my home island of Guam was shocked by the death of 7-year-old Erica Aquino, her mother Therese Crisostomo Aquino and her father Rudy Aquino. The island of Guam is shocked and horrified at the horrible details of these violent deaths. According to police and media reports, Rudy Aquino, estranged from his ex-wife Therese, had shot her and then their young daughter Erica before turning the shotgun on himself. Immediate family members were summoned to the scene of the crime to learn first hand of the tragedy. They had been preparing for a birthday celebration in honor of Therese's brother, a newly ordained parish priest.

Therese was a social worker in the adult protective services unit of the Guam Depart-

ment of Public Health and Social Services. Her daughter Erica was a second grade student at San Vicente School in Barrigada. A week has passed since these deaths and the family and friends of Therese Crisostomo Aquino and her daughter Erica are asking many questions, "Why did it happen?; How could we have helped?" The friends and family of Rudy Aquino also ask "Why did it happen?" and "How could we have helped?"

The incident occurred on the eve of Governor Carl Gutierrez's Proclamation of October as Family Violence Awareness Month. As if to demonstrate the need for such a proclamation, three lives were lost because of family violence. As we all know, family violence affects us regardless of age, sexual orientation, physical ability, marital status, ethnicity, cultural or educational background, religion or economic status. It is often ignored and tolerated by our society, and despite the number of agencies and nonprofit organizations set up to assist them, many victims continue to feel isolated and ashamed, and even responsible for the abuse—blaming themselves. We have to do all that we can to let them know that they are not alone.

Family violence affects the whole family, especially children. Children in abusive homes carry the terrible lessons of violence with them into adulthood and into the next generation. Children who grow up in violent homes are 6 times more likely to commit suicide, 24 times more likely to commit sexual assault crimes, 74 times more likely to commit crimes against the person and 50 times more likely to abuse drugs or alcohol.

Sadly, in Guam, despite a culture in which our elderly or "manamko", as they are affectionately known, are honored and revered, it was essential for our government to open an adult protective services unit in 1989. Since its inception, there have been 800 reports of physical and emotional abuse received by our island's elderly and disabled. Abuse in our families has reached into the generations that preceded us.

In Guam, police officers have responded to 5,969 family violence offenses from 1993 through 1995. During that same time period, the Child Protective Services received 5,881 referrals, and in 1996 they have reviewed over 3,000 of these referrals. In 1995, the Guam Attorney General's Office prosecuted 106 criminal felony cases and 248 criminal misdemeanor cases; while from January through June, 1996, they prosecuted 50 criminal felonies and 248 criminal misdemeanor cases. So many women and men are reluctant to admit to the violence and reach out beyond the family that experts believe the actual prevalence may be much higher than the numbers indicate.

So what are we doing in Guam to lessen and eliminate the instances of violence taking place between family members? Since 1993, the Governor, through executive order, has established the family violence task force comprised of all governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations which deal with family violence. Among its primary duties is the development and implementation of inter-and intra-departmental or agency policy and protocol on family violence; the development and evaluation of prevention and treatment programs for the community-at-large and for targeted groups; and the establishment of a community resource, referral and visitation center to dis-

seminate throughout the territory, educational information and materials concerning prevention and response to family violence.

The family violence task force was just re-institutionalized this year, and includes the following members: The First Lady of Guam, Mrs. Geraldine T. Gutierrez; and representatives of the following private and public entities: the Guam Police Department; the Department of Corrections; the Department of Law, Attorney General's Office; the Superior Court of Guam, Family Counseling and Client Services Division; the Guam Legal Services Corporation; the Public Defender Services Corporation; the Guam Bar; Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse; the Crisis Hotline; Healing Hearts; Department of Public Health & Social Services, Adult and Child Protective Services; Department of Youth Affairs; the Governor's Community Outreach Federal Programs Office; the Mayors' Council of Guam; the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority; the Guam Department of Education; the Guam Community College; the University of Guam; the Alee Shelter and Shelter for Abused Children, Catholic Social Services; Victim Advocates Reaching Out [VARO] inafamaolek, Inc; Victim Witness Ayuda Services; Sanctuary Inc; United Women of Micronesia; Naval Services Center, U.S. Navy Hospital Guam; Andersen Air Force Base Support Flight; and other individuals, to be named from the community-at-large which include religious leaders, private business persons and members of civic associations and organizations.

The Family Violence Task Force has traditionally held a public awareness campaign throughout the month of October. This year, Family Violence Awareness Month is being headed by Alicia Limtiaco, a private attorney who has formerly served as the island's Chief Prosecutor. One of the many events planned for the month is a "Silent Witness Exhibit" in memory of fatalities of domestic violence of Guam. Guam will be represented in the national events being held this month here in Washington by First Lady Geri Gutierrez, Sister Eileen of the Alee Shelter, and Marie McElligot of the Superior Court of Guam, as well as other dedicated supporters and advocates.

Also scheduled throughout the month are numerous appearances on all the local radio and television stations, as well as forums for specific target groups such as "Up Close and Personal" for service providers, "Ashes, Ashes We All Fall Down" for university students; and forums with broader themes such as "Legal Issues," "Life Skills for Women Only," "Life Skills Seminar for Couples," and "For Men Only." The local churches are encouraged to conduct sermons on family violence, and a poster and essay contest will be conducted in the island's schools.

Despite all these efforts, Guam continues to battle with family violence. It is recognized as a very serious and escalating problem within our community, and will take the entire community to actively work together to make our island safe for everyone, especially our women, children, elderly and disabled. On behalf of the people of Guam and the United States, I commend the dedicated work of all of the agencies, professionals, and volunteers, who work tirelessly to bring peace to each island family.

CONGRATULATIONS ON DOUBLE
TENTH DAY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the October 10, 1997 celebration of the 36th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China on Taiwan. October 10 was selected as the date for observing Taiwan's founding because on that date in 1911, troops and ordinary citizens of the Wuchang region of China revolted against their Manchu dynastic rulers to protest against the corruption and incompetence of their leadership. After centuries of imperial and dynastic rule, the October 10th rebellion affirmed the desire of the Chinese people to achieve self-determination. With the election of President Lee Teng-hui, the first democratically-elected head of state in China's history, we witnessed a partial realization of the aspirations of the Chinese people who revolted in 1911.

Under President Lee's leadership, Taiwan has expanded its presence within the international community and has become an important source of development assistance. As evidence by the levels of cultural exchanges and bilateral trade, relations between the United States and Taiwan have never been stronger. President Lee has selected Dr. Jason Hu, Taiwan's former representative in Washington, as his new Foreign Minister. During his time in Washington, Dr. Hu proved himself to be a hard-working, highly effective and selfless representative of the Taiwanese Government and people. I am confident that Dr. Hu will be equally successful and impressive in his new position of Foreign Minister.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the people of Taiwan on the upcoming October 10, 1997 celebration of the anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China on Taiwan.

IN HONOR OF GREGORY R.
DEMALINE ON HIS ATTAINMENT
OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Gregory Demaline of Parma, OH, who will be honored for his attainment of Eagle Scout.

The attainment of Eagle Scout is a high and rare honor requiring years of dedication to self-improvement, hard work, and the community. Each Eagle Scout must earn 21 merit badges, 12 of which are required, including badges in: lifesaving; first aid; citizenship in the community; citizenship in the Nation; citizenship in the world; personal management of time and money; family life; environmental science; and camping.

In addition to acquiring and proving proficiency in those and other skills, an Eagle Scout must hold leadership positions within the troop where he learns to earn the respect and hear the criticism of those he leads.

The Eagle Scout must live by the Scouting law, which holds that he must be: trustworthy,

loyal, brave, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, clean, and reverent.

And the Eagle Scout must complete an Eagle project, which he must plan, finance, and evaluate on his own. It is no wonder that only 2 percent of all boys entering Scouting achieve this rank.

My fellow colleagues, let us recognize and praise Gregory for his achievement.

THOSE SURPLUSES: PROCEED
WITH CAUTION

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, the Washington Post published an excellent article about the Federal budget by Dr. Robert Reischauer, former CBO director and now a fellow at the Brookings Institution. I would like to share this article with my colleagues. Many of our colleagues are proposing new ways to spend a putative budget surplus, either by cutting more taxes or raising spending. Dr. Reischauer warns Congress that this is a mistake. He reminds us that even though we have made extraordinary progress in reducing the deficit, the Government is still not in surplus and the budget is not projected to reach surplus until after the year 2000. We should certainly not be spending a surplus we don't have.

Even when we reach surplus, Dr. Reischauer points out, we will be relying on the balance in the Social Security trust fund to offset the deficit spending in the rest of the Federal budget. Finally, there is considerable merit in paying down the \$4 trillion debt the Federal Government owes the public, once we reach surplus. This will help prepare us for the deficits we will be facing once we start to pay the cost of the baby boomers' retirement.

Two months ago, Congress and the President enacted a bipartisan 5-year budget plan, which provided both for modest spending increases and tax cuts. Sticking to the budget agreement is the surest path to reaching a budget surplus. In any case, we should certainly not start spending surpluses we have not yet achieved.

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 21, 1997]

THOSE SURPLUSES: PROCEED WITH CAUTION

(By Robert D. Reischauer)

Had Rip van Winkle been around a few years ago, he would have been put to sleep reading the endless stream of apocalyptic budget reports which warned that the large deficit of the day would soon explode if politically impossible spending cuts or tax increases were not enacted immediately. Had he been roused a few weeks ago and told that the president had just signed the first significant tax cut since 1981 and that the latest budget projections were for modest but growing surpluses after 2001, he undoubtedly would have gone into immediate cardiac arrest.

The amazing budgetary turnaround of the past year and the prospect of future surpluses have also quickened pulses on Capitol Hill. Those who worship at the concrete altar already have drawn up plans to boost highway spending; those whose faith tells them that lower taxes can solve all of the nation's problems have begun crafting further tax reductions; and those whose worthy

social initiatives have been cruelly sacrificed to the gods of fiscal responsibility over the past decade are dusting off their proposals for expanded social investments.

Before the promised surpluses burn a hole in the congressional pocketbook, lawmakers should remember that these surpluses are not yet in hand and that there are benefits from sustaining rather than spending them. The projections of surpluses assume that Congress and the president will adhere to the balanced budget act's limits on discretionary spending. These limits, which provide half the deficit reduction needed to balance the budget in the year 2002, will require politically painful votes on appropriations in each of the next four years, votes that will reduce real discretionary spending 12 percent below current levels by 2002. The experience of the past few months should raise a bit of skepticism about the political system's ability to mete out such sacrifice. When faced with the \$544.8 billion discretionary spending cap that the 1993 budget agreement set for the coming fiscal year, Congress and the president balked and used the new agreement to add \$8.5 billion to the fiscal 1998 limits.

The projected surpluses could also evaporate if there are many slips in those portions of the balanced budget and tax relief acts that do not require further legislative action. Some of the promised Medicare savings, which account for over half of the spending reductions anticipated for the next five years, could fail to materialize if the Health Care Finance Administration has difficulty implementing the 226 complex provisions of the new law that generate these savings. The \$21.4 billion expected to be bid for rights to use portions of the electromagnetic spectrum for commercial purposes could turn out to be more pie-in-the-sky than money-in-the-bank. The revenue loss from the tax relief act could be larger than anticipated if individuals respond with more gusto than expected to its incentives or if wily tax accounts find unforeseen ways to mine the provisions of the new law.

The considerable uncertainty that surrounds estimates of both how much the program cuts will save and how much tax reductions will cost if cuts and reductions are implemented as planned is a further reason for caution. The Office of Management and Budget's estimate of the net reduction in Medicare spending over the next five years is 34 percent larger than the Congressional Budget Office's, while Congress's Joint Tax Committee calculates that the child tax credit will cost 19 percent more than Treasury estimates.

While the economics assumptions upon which the new budget projections are based appear to be quite prudent, an average-sized recession could easily add \$100 billion to the deficit for a year or two and delay the attainment of a balanced budget until well after 2002.

These warnings may represent excessive caution; modest surpluses could well materialize early in the 21st century. But if they do, there are good reasons to squirrel them away—that is, to pay down the federal debt—rather than spend them on program expansions or further tax cuts. Even in 2002, when the budget is first projected to be in surplus, taxpayers won't come close to footing the full bill for what the federal government provides them. The overall budget surplus of \$32 billion that CBO projects for 2002 will be made up of a \$120 billion surplus in the Social Security program offset by a whopping \$88 billion deficit in all of the government's other accounts. It is well recognized that Social Security is incurring future liabilities that far exceed its modest surpluses and that without major reform it will be insolvent before the last of the baby boomers has retired.

Furthermore, surpluses have consequences that can be every bit as salutary as those provided by tax reductions or expanded government programs. Surpluses add to national saving, boost domestic investment and thereby raise, by small but important amounts, productivity, economic growth and incomes. If surpluses are allowed to develop, interest rates will be reduced, and the federal debt will be reduced, and the federal debt will begin to shrink. As a consequence, the portion of the federal budget devoted to debt service—currently one out of every seven dollars—will shrink, leaving more for real priorities.

Having probably achieved a balanced overall budget—an objective that seemed to be unattainable only a few years ago—it is time to shift the focus of the policy debate to balancing the non-Social Security budget and restructuring Social Security and Medicare for the long term. If these objectives can be achieved, Rip van Winkle won't find when he next wakes up a nation in which either retirees are scrimping by on inadequate social insurance benefits or workers are unduly burdened supporting the aged.

TRIBUTE TO MILKEN FAMILY FOUNDATION NATIONAL EDUCATOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two of my constituents who have been honored by receiving the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. These constituents are Mr. Linard McCloud from Charleston, SC, and Mrs. Thomasenia J. Benson of Orangeburg, SC.

Mr. Linard McCloud is the band conductor at Burke High School in Charleston. He has been the band director at his alma mater for almost 20 years. During his tenure at Burke, the Burke High School band has improved to a grade V concert level band. The band has received no less than an excellent rating in the past five concert festivals with most of the on-stage music receiving superior ratings.

Under Mr. McCloud's direction, the Burke High School band has performed for the Prince of Wales, recorded an ETV production on the percussion ensemble, filmed a local commercial, marched in two Mardi Gras parades, and performed for several college football games. In addition, the band has toured Canada three times and will travel to New Orleans in the spring.

Aside from his excellent leadership as band director, Mr. McCloud has given tirelessly to his students and the music community. He has been credited with obtaining over 100 scholarships for his students. He also serves as the president of the Charleston County Band Director's Association, and is a member of the Florida A&M University summer band camp staff, Kappa Kappa Psi music fraternity, and Alpha Kappa Mu honor society. He has received community service awards from Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, and Phi Beta Sigma fraternities. He is also a senior trustee and lifelong member of Morris Brown AME Church.

Mrs. Thomasenia J. Benson, who also received the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award, is currently in her second

year as principal at Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School in Orangeburg, SC.

Mrs. Benson, a native of the Pee Dee area of South Carolina, received a bachelor of science degree from Benedict College in Columbia, SC. She received a master's degree in education and credits in counseling and secondary administration from the University of South Carolina, also in Columbia.

Mrs. Benson began her career as an educator by teaching U.S. history and psychology for 12 years at Batesburg-Leesville High School. From there, she taught social studies for 4 years at Irmo Middle School. Next, she served as assistant principal at Irmo Middle School. From there, Mrs. Benson became the assistant principal at W.A. Perry Middle School in Columbia for 3 years. Prior to becoming principal of Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School, she was principal at William J. Clark Middle School, also in Orangeburg, for 3 years. Mrs. Benson's commitment to education is illustrated through almost three decades of service to the students of South Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, these two South Carolina educators are among 150 of the Nation's most distinguished educators to be awarded the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. Along with the \$25,000 financial award, they will receive educational resources through the powerful network for over 1,000 previous recipients of this prestigious award. This year's recipients were chosen, among other criteria, for their achievement in developing innovative educational curricula, programs and/or teaching methods; outstanding ability to instill in students character and self-confidence; and commitment to professional development.

As two of this year's winners, both Mr. McCloud and Mrs. Benson will be sent to Los Angeles in June 1998 for the annual Milken Family Foundation National Education Conference. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in paying tribute to these two distinguished educators from my district as I am so proud to have them represent both the Sixth Congressional District and the State of South Carolina.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today is a sad day for supporters of campaign finance reform. The U.S. Senate failed to pass the McCain-Feingold campaign finance bill. A majority of the Senate, 53 Members, supported this bill. However they were seven votes short of ending a filibuster by those who are satisfied with the status quo.

The amendment supporters included 45 Democrats and 8 Republicans. This bipartisan show of support is an encouraging sign and it reflects the growing momentum for passage of campaign finance reform. It is unfortunate that a majority of the Members in the Senate cannot pass such an important piece of legislation. I hope that the leadership of the Senate will see the wisdom of allowing reconsideration of the McCain-Feingold bill.

However, at least the members of the Senate were allowed a vote on campaign finance

reform. In the House we haven't been given the opportunity to vote on any bill. With the effort in the Senate stalled now is the time for the House to take up this issue. Mr. Speaker, let's put our partisan differences aside and allow a vote on meaningful campaign finance reform.

IN HONOR OF ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Innocent Orthodox Church on the consecration of its new church structure in Olmsted Township, OH.

Fourteen years ago, a coalition of dedicated Orthodox Christians from a variety of ethnic backgrounds came together to practice their faith in a common language. These early members began holding biweekly services in the Community Room of Great Northern Mall and established committees to determine the growth and direction of the new parish. St. Innocent was chosen as the patron saint because the zeal of the missionary, who taught the Orthodox Christian Faith across North America and Alaska, would be an inspiration to the members of the new church.

In 1984, the members of St. Innocent began holding services in a rented chapel in Westlake. Members established a church school program for children and adults and weekly Bible studies. The church is also very active in outreach to the surrounding community. A program to provide food and support to St. Herman's House of Hospitality receives continued support. In addition, money from an extra collection each month is donated to charitable organizations or to families in need. Each Christmas, the parish supports at least one family in the community with gifts, food, financial assistance, and love.

St. Innocent welcomes the diversity of its parish and combines the many ethnic traditions into its services. I am confident that the growing parish family will flourish, and that the many services and activities it sponsors will multiply in the new church facility in Olmsted Township.

EDEL JENSEN PETERSEN: YWCA TRIBUTE TO WOMEN

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to recognize and honor Edel Jensen Petersen, who will receive on October 10, 1997, the YWCA Tribute to Women Award for a lifetime of volunteer work in Lincoln, NE.

Born in 1910, Edel has been described as a woman ahead of her time. It was quite an accomplishment at the time for her, a woman, to go to college. She taught school, both in Iowa and Nebraska, in the elementary grades and in special education. She married in 1936 and is the mother of Sharon Edel Schultze, my senior legislative assistant and a member

of my San Diego Board of Education, San Diego City Council, and congressional staff for almost 20 years.

As a woman ahead of her time, Edel has worked in an equal partnership with her husband of over 61 years, long before the women's movement highlighted the importance of this concept. She and her husband, Pastor Alvin Petersen, are the perfect partners—working and playing together as a team throughout their 30-year ministry at the Lutheran Student Center and Chapel at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and now in their retirement.

Edel was an integral part of the staff at the Lutheran Student Center, sometimes as paid staff, but more often as a volunteer. She was affectionately known as "Mom Pete" by all who came to the student center. She offered her skills in counseling, networking, research, and the arts. She is said to have had a profound influence on the lives of many, and she served as a mentor to thousands of young women as they passed through the university. In fact, she has been a role model to women during her whole life—as a teacher, a mother, a grandmother, the wife of a pastor, a community volunteer, as part of the team at the student center, and in retirement. Most importantly, she has been a friend to all who needed a friend.

She was also a mentor to the wives of other campus pastors and pastoral interns at the university. She formed a study group for married women students and, along with her husband, initiated a Couples Club, a Grad Club, and a theology study group—all opportunities to support the sharing of ideas and concerns.

Edel's code for living, "to listen, to accept, to love, and to affirm", is evident in everything she does. She frequently opened her home to university students who needed a place to live, including many international students. Early in their ministry at the university, Pastor Pete and Mom Pete initiated International Night, inviting students from various countries, including all religious beliefs, to prepare and share a meal of foods from their native countries. Such events eventually became a cooperative effort of all the campus ministries. She encouraged students at the student center to sponsor children through the Foster Parents Plan, a project which helped these students reach out beyond their own concerns. She and her husband spent a summer in the 1960's leading a group of young people in their work with a Chicago inner-city project sponsored by the Methodist Church.

Another important sphere of her influence was the creative enrichment she brought to the university students and the community as a whole, by initiating an annual Festival of the Arts at the Lutheran Student Center. The festival included both local and nationally known artwork, music, and drama. The final festival before her husband's retirement was a magnificent display of Native American Indian art and was described by one university professor as the best show he had seen of Native American artists.

As a gifted pianist, writer, poet, and weaver, Edel's own contributions to the arts have been published and featured throughout the Midwest. Two of her most notable weavings are featured at the Lutheran Student Center and at the Lied Center for Performing Arts in Lincoln.

She recently won first place in the Legacies Story Writing Contest, sponsored by the Lin-

coln Area Agency on Aging. She had her winning essay published in Lifelines magazine, and also recently was published in the Lincoln Journal-Star newspaper, with an article describing how she has worked to grow older with joy and continued commitment to life and to worthwhile causes.

In the community outside of the student center, Edel has been a volunteer tutor through the American Red Cross, has served as president of the PTA at her daughter's school, led Camp Fire troops, was a docent at the Sheldon Art Gallery for more than 10 years, has been a member of Bread for the World since it was first organized and of the United Nations for over 20 years, read weekly to retired people at a senior center, and most recently, has helped to establish a reading group for visually and hearing impaired women at Eastmont Towers, the retirement home where she now lives.

And Edel has been recycling since her youth, before anyone else ever thought about the importance of recycling. Preservation of our Earth's environment is one of her paramount concerns.

Being in the limelight has never been what it was about for Edel Petersen. Her joy has been to motivate, to empower, to facilitate—often from behind the scenes. So it is highly appropriate and rewarding that her contributions are being recognized by this prestigious award.

Edel is an example of what one woman can do, by keeping herself open to the possibilities to help and to serve—whether her actions have a large impact in the community or help the person next door who needs love and encouragement.

For all these reasons, I am particularly pleased to recognize the contributions of Edel Petersen with this acknowledgement in the House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY OF ADOLF AND
DOROTHY ZALEWSKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Adolf and Dorothy Zalewski.

Mr. and Mrs. Zalewski were married on October 25, 1947 at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church and are life-long residents of the Slavic Village neighborhood of Cleveland. Adolf Zalewski retired in 1985 after working for 38 years at LTV Steel and is a World War II veteran. Dorothy Zalewski served a term as a councilwoman in Newburgh Heights and is currently a Precinct B committeewoman.

Both Adolf and Dorothy remain active in church, civic, and political affairs. Adolf is an auxiliary policeman in Newburgh Heights and is active at his church. Dorothy is president of the Newburgh Heights Democratic Club and volunteers at a local hospital. Adolph and Dorothy will celebrate their 50th anniversary with their three children and eight grandchildren.

I am happy to congratulate Adolf and Dorothy Zalewski on 50 years of marriage and wish them another 50 years of happiness together.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RECIP-
ROCAL TRADE AGREEMENTS
ACT OF 1997

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with several of my colleagues, am introducing companion legislation to the legislation passed out of the Senate Finance Committee on fast track. Last week, the Senate Finance Committee voted to approve bipartisan fast-track legislation. We believe the Finance Committee's legislation strikes a reasonable balance with respect to various concerns raised about fast track and is a bill that every Member who wants to support fast track should be able to support. The bill also includes an extension of requested trade adjustment assistance programs.

This legislation lays out important principal negotiating objectives including expanded and strengthened language for agriculture and intellectual property. These are two areas in which we, as a country, stand to gain in the near term. In addition the bill contains a provision specifically calling for greater transparency in international fora and particularly in the WTO. The bill also is consistent with proposals which afford fast-track procedures primarily for trade and trade-related measures. This strongly reflects the traditional use of fast-track authority. Finally, the legislation addresses labor and the environment issues in a meaningful and constructive way.

The debate over fast track thus far has been contentious and divisive. It is time to move from abstract issues to the business of legislating. We believe that it is important to our country's continued leadership on all fronts that we pass fast track before the Congress adjourns this year.

HIGH SPEED GROUND TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION ACTION PROGRAM

HON. JAY KIM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for including a high-speed rail program in our Nation's surface transportation law.

For much of my life, I have had a strong interest in magnetic levitation train technologies, Maglev. When I was a practicing engineer, I actually worked on the proposed Anaheim to Las Vegas Maglev train route. That project never got off the ground, but I knew then that Maglev was the technology of the future.

Other countries in Asia and Europe realized decades ago that high-speed rail systems were essential to effective, intercity travel. But in America, we really don't have anything like that. Amtrak runs a few trains over 100 miles-per-hour in the Northeast Corridor, but that's about it. In the United States, intercity travel means air travel or your car.

Unfortunately, that's not good enough. In some cities our airspace is dangerously

crowded, the airports are over capacity, and the freeways are congested nightmares. We need an alternative to air travel, and I think high-speed rail is the answer.

That's why I introduced H.R. 2341, the Magnetic Levitation Transportation Technology Deployment Act. My bill provides almost \$1 billion over 6 years for research grants, planning and design, and construction of a Maglev project. The first 2 years would provide \$50 million for research, corridor planning, and development. The final 4 years would provide \$940 million for additional research and construction. H.R. 2341 would usher the United States into the next generation of intercity travel.

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, upon which I serve as a subcommittee chairman, has taken a more conservative approach to Maglev technology in its reauthorization of the Nation's surface transportation law. The Building Efficiency Surface Transportation Equity Act [BESTEA] reauthorizes the Swift Rail Development Act at \$35 million per year for corridor planning, research, and development. In recognition of my Maglev bill, our committee agreed to expand the Swift Rail Development Act to include Maglev systems. In short, BESTEA provides important re-

search and planning funds like H.R. 2341, but it is silent on the construction phase of the program. I believe this is a good start for Maglev, and I look forward to working with our chairman to improve upon this program.

In the Senate, the chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee has included a Maglev program in his reauthorization bill that is almost identical to H.R. 2341. I commend the chairman and ranking member for their leadership in making Maglev a transportation priority, and I intend to work with them in conference to see that a Maglev program is included in the final bill sent to the President.

IN HONOR OF TAYLOR E. GOODE
ON HIS ATTAINMENT OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Taylor Goode of North Olmsted, OH, who will

be honored on October 12, 1997, for his attainment of Eagle Scout.

The attainment of Eagle Scout is a high and rare honor requiring years of dedication to self-improvement, hard work, and the community. Each Eagle Scout must earn 21 merit badges, 12 of which are required, including badges in: lifesaving; first aid; citizenship in the community; citizenship in the Nation; citizenship in the world; personal management of time and money; family life; environmental science; and camping.

In addition to acquiring and proving proficiency in those and other skills, an Eagle Scout must hold leadership positions within the troop where he learns to earn the respect and hear the criticism of those he leads.

The Eagle Scout must live by the Scouting Law, which holds that he must be: trustworthy, loyal, brave, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, clean, and reverent.

And the Eagle Scout must complete an Eagle Project, which he must plan, finance, and evaluate on his own. It is no wonder that only 2 percent of all boys entering Scouting achieve this rank.

My fellow colleagues, let us recognize and praise Taylor for his achievement.